NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. JOHN A. GLASSE, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
UNITED PROMOTION
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA
FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
REV. A. D. SWOGGER, CH.
METLAKATLA, ALASKA
PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA
STATED CLERK
REV. DAVID WAGGONER
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
December 15, 1936.

Dr.John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

Your letter of November 25th was received several days ago, but I was unable to get a conference with Mr. Glasse until late Saturday night. Hence have delayed writing until tonight.

You can hardly imagine the feelings of Mrs. Waggoner and myself when we opened the letter and began to read it. It was some time before we could read it in its entirety. It is such an answer to long prayer for something we have felt was needed, and we felt also that the Lord knew of our need. We did not have the news for Thanksgiving, but we will announce the gift next Sunday as another Christmas gift from the Father. We are saying very little about the matter even among ourselves, for we want to secure a sight before we are blocked by objectors. Mr. Glasse is not available for investigation at present on account of the press of his work. We plan to go together for a survey.

I wanted to have a conference with Mr.Hirst as to what are the plans of the Indian Office in the near future. When you were here he said that plans were under way for a change of school location and the erection of a new hospital. Miss Miller,the inspecting nurse,told us just before leaving for the States that she was recommending an entirely new hospital plant with every modern facility. Mr.Hirst will go to Washington soon for presentation of his program and budget. What will be done in the erection of the new buildings will depend on what Congress does with their appropriation. Mr.Hirst returned last night from a tour. I hope to see him soon and discuss plans, and perhaps you will contact eachother while he is in the States.

In the first place I want to say that I appreciate the love of the Scheides in suggesting that the new plant be called "Waggoner Memorial". The suggestion is a great honor. But Doctor, I feel very deeply that such a name would be a mistake while Mrs. Waggoner and myself are living. It would handicap the work and embarras us in our program. There is too much jealousy in human nature while men are living. When gone men forget our frailties. I told this to Mr. Glasse at the beginning of our conference. Then he read me the copy of the letter he had written you. He gave the names of S.Hall Young, Edward Marsden, James H. Condit, Rev.George Beck as persons who had labored long in Alaska. Personally I feel that we should call the plant the S.Hall Young Memorial. Dr. Young prospected the work in 1879, visited the camp at its discovery, and was one of the organizers of the Church. I am sure that his name

would appeal to his friends among the churches in the States. I hope that you and the Scheides will see this in the same way I do. I will have enough honor in being permitted to build the church and open the way for a trained community worker, which I hope you will be able to secure.

I have felt for a long time that our program should be a community program. Our people need something more than we have been giving them in the past. We agreed when you were here that the old plan of doing mission work was past. We have evangelized the people in most of Alaska. They know about the Christ and have been offered the opportunity of accepting the gospel. But we have not cared for the people after they confessed Christ. Our schools are turning out an English speaking people. They require intensive instruction at our hands, that they may know the foundations of their beliefs, and what is required in the superstructure of Christian life. We have to help our people to make Christian homes out of hovels. We must demonstrate Christian home atmosphere. We cannot do this without a place of social contact and instruction.

You heard Mr.Zuboff, the Grand President of the A.N.B., talk on the liquor question at Presbytery meeting. Well the situation in the joint which he told about is ranker than ever. When we talk to the young people who go to that place they say, "Well we have no other place to go to, and we cannot sit in the house all the time." The great attraction at Gazaloffs is not the drinking at first, but the dancing floor, and the Native girls who have been secured as singers. You can understand how modern the proprietor is trying to make his place, and it is for Natives and Phillipinoes.

We need a place for our people to play games, to have basket ball, to read, and to have a social life. The question raised by Mr. Glasse is whether it is our place to build a gymnasium sufficiently large for basket ball. When I talked with you about a plant the gymnasium was not part of the plant. To build a gym would cost as much as the rest of the building, and more. The upkeep and the cost of maintenance would be very high. Glasse says that the Government is expecting to finance this as part of their program when they build the new plant. It is my opinion that the $15.000 will not more than cover the auditorium, and the annex which will have Sunday School class rooms, a large social room which can be used for games such as table tennis, badmington, chess &c, reading room, suppers, programs &c. This is my opinion which can only be verified by plans and specifications. Mrs. Waggoner and I talked about an outdoor court for basket ball, volley ball &c. if we find that we cannot afford the gym. Our idea is to have a floor without side walls, but roofed over at sufficient height for basket ball playing, that is the ceiling would be about 16 ft plus above floor. This is for thinking about. Coference with Mr. Hirst might help in solution.

You speak of holding a dispensary and clinic in the building and secure the services of a town doctor. I do not think this will be feasible since the Government is already handling this in Juneau through its hospital service. We do not want to in any way infringe upon the program of the Office of Indian Affairs. I do approve the community worker, day nursery &c. The details of our service and program would have to be worked out with the Bureau. We always keeping in mind that our work is spiritual in its ultimate goal.

I have written to Mr. and Mrs. Scheide and thanked them for their gift and the evidence of their love. I have not discussed the nameenor made any suggestion about the plant or its construction, for I feel that this should be done through your office and by you.

I am hoping that Mr. Glasse will be able to take an hour during the week to make a preliminary survey for a sight. When we find a location we will endeavor to get an option and proceed with the disposal of the manse property. It is our thought just now to trade the cheaper house for a sight and manse and sell the larger house which will produce more money. This will have to work its self out,

I have not been able to hold services in Douglas for the past two Sundays. We have been holding the services in the basement room in the Douglas building. The class room is on the floor above. Mrs. Davis conducts her classes after the modern methods. The children are taught at tables and not at desks. The work of the children is not put away but remains on the tables at the close of the school periods. We have never used this room, except for special programs given when whites were invited, and for funerals of extra prominent persons.

A week ago Sunday a complete manual training shop was installed in the basement room. This has put us out of the building since we are not given the use of the regular class room. When we were contributing to the welfare of the school by helping with $10. per month for janitor service, Mrs. Davis felt under obligation to us. That obligation has been removed and she feels no obligation to give up her class room for our use. I knew that the basement room was intended for shop use, but felt at the time we might be given the use of class room.

I have taken the matter up with Mr. Glasse as to whether the Committee will finance another meeting place. We will have to provide rent, fuel and light, and all the seating and other equipment. I will not go ahead to secure a rented place until I am assured that funds are available to meet the expense. Will you please let me know your reaction to the problem.

We thank you for your Christmas Greeting. We all send to you our sincere Christmas greetings and wishes for a happy and prosperous 1937.

Sincerely yours,

David Haggoman

P.S. All who attend our services in Douglas are on relief. The men who have been the earners have all died - The last two men drowned this summer. We cannot obtain any finances in Douglas. The group numbers about 22,

RECOMMENDATION

A site having been selected for the erection of a new native church which is greatly needed in Juneau to take the place of the present chapel erected on piles, with the tide water rising to the floor of the chapel on many occasions, the sum of $5000 has been offered by Mr. and Mrs. John H. Scheide of Titusville, Pa. Plans are being completed for a new church on a more favorable site, with adequate provision for the Sunday school and young people's work and for the inauguration of a community program which is very much needed in behalf of the native people.

The site which has been selected for the new building will cost $2700. The new manse to be erected on the same site will cost approximately $6000. The church building will cost approximately $17000, making the total for the entire enterprise $25,700. It is proposed to sell the two missionary residences in Juneau which the Board acquired many years ago and which are valued at $9000. With Mr. Scheide's gift of $5000, we shall have a total of $14000 available.

It is recommended:

(1) That the Board approve the purchase of five lots, forty by fifty feet each on the north side of West Ninth Street between "C" and "D" Streets in Juneau.

(2) That the Board accept with an expression of their gratitude the gift of $5000 from Mr. and Mrs. Scheide for this new enterprise.

(3) That the Board authorize the Treasurer to negotiate the sale of the general missionary cottage and of the residence now occupied by Mr. Waggoner, the missionary in charge of the native church, for a consideration of approximately $9000, with the discretion to accept a lower price if necessary in order to effect a prompt sale.

(4) That the Board authorize an appropriation out of the fund in the hands of the Board for the settlement of its insurance claim in connection with the destruction of the Barrow hospital, of such an amount as may be necessary to complete the building of the new native church and manse, over and above the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Scheide and the proceeds of the sale of the missionary residences.

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REV. DAVID WAGGONER
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
January 12, 1937.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

On November 3, 1936, I wrote you concerning the situation developing in Douglas on account of withdrawing the rental which we have been giving the teacher at Douglas to help out in her projects. If you will refer to that letter you will notice that the term rent is a misnomer, that in reality the money given to the teacher was used for certain things she is doing for the children, mostly at her own expense, since there is no government appropriation available for the purpose. This $10. per month has been of great help to the teacher in her enterprises, and at the same time has furnished us with a place for holding services and kept the teacher friendly toward our work.

On page two of my letter I say; "I feel that we have jeprodized our work in Douglas. I am not sure what can be done if other denominations want to take part of the Sundays of the month. We cannot get another place for worship without a larger outlay to fix the place suitable for worship, and to heat and light the same. All the Douglas group are on relief. The offerings have been negligible since the death of our resident elder. He died suddenly and left a large family without support. Four men of the congregation were drowned this summer. Our principal work in Douglas is the care of the small children and a few old people. We have two Sunday School classes each Sunday. I take the older ones and a native girl tXXXX who has some normal training since high school graduation takes the children."

I wrote to you under December 15th that the school house had been closed to our work. I have not been able to secure any information from Glasse as to what the Committee would do, though I have repeatedly told him that we could get the teacher to let us into the new quarters at the old terms, or we could secure another location and pay the price as I wrote to you. The answer has always been "let them go, over there, and they will appreciate what we are doing. Let the teacher cooperate with us" &c. This has been going on for six weeks while I have been trying to get something definite to go on. It has been my work and I am more interested in Douglas than any Committee chairman.

Today Glasse called me up and said that he hadhad a conference with Mrs. Davis, and the School would not be available for us. (Mrs. Davis phoned us last week that she was still willing to give up her Sunday afternoons for the work if we would help her with the $10.) Glasse also said that he was recommending that we close the Douglas work. (write soon) That Mrs. Davis said that the Episcopalians were willing to take our children into their Sunday School and that would be better. We called Mrs. Davis this evening and she now says that she will not

take the congregation in at any price; that she wants her Sundays off, that she has had a conference with Glasse and both agree that the children should go to the Episcopal people. The Dean of the Episcopal work asked me whether we were abandoning the work in Douglas at a meeting a week ago. He said that Mrs. Davis wanted him to take the children. It seems that we have no say so about the work in Douglas.

Does the Board want the work at Douglas closed, or will it finance another place of worship? We have lost the best part of the winter through not knowing the mind of the Board or Committee. If we want to give up the work the Episcopalians will take over, (until the whites object as has been done in Douglas every time Native and White have tried to mix) - or the new Brumbaugh-Gilman organization will function. Mr.Gilman has opened an orphanage in Douglas last week. Please wire me your reaction.

After waiting from December 15th until last Wednesday I was able to get Mr.Glasse to look over the location of the new proposed plant. Our people have two ideas. The old people want the new plant just as near the old structure as possible. This is natural, for they do not want to walk far to church. (Though those who belong to the Roman and Greek churches climb the steps and walk several blocks without much outward complaint). In the second place the old people cannot visualize the new plant with its appointments. The young people want the plant free from the village, where it can be beautified and look like the white plants do in the States, and central to the church population.

In our walk I showed Mr. Glasse where our people say they want the plant. It is in a good location, not far from the hospital, near where our younger people are establishing their homes, --one family homes,---and on the level of the Native Village. Mr. Glasse said immediately that he would strenuously oppose that location because white homes were on three sides of the location. He said that he would oppose any location that would put our home and building next to the whites. I asked him where he would suggest. He took me to the village and pointed out a place next to the power plant of the Light Company with just room enough for the building, with the hill at the back and no view from the plant farther than fifty feet. Next we went to another place where we would have to dig into the bank with no possibility of sunlight or good air entering the Annex or community building. The third place was next to the present school building of the Indian Bureau, a place which Mr.Hirst says should be abandoned by the Bureau.(--The present school building should be abandoned and the Bureau secure a new site---) So we would not have the advantage of being next to the school assured for any length of time. This lot will have to be filled with 12 feet of rock before a building can be erected, and then the main floor will have to be far enough above the level of the street to permit some sort of a basement for the heating plant and toilets &c. Another suggestion of Mr.Glasse was that the building should be erected out on the tide flats acrossthe street from the last location above. I think the above attitude of Mr.Glasse, and his reaction as to calling the plant the " Waggoner Memorial", will indicate to you the problem confronting me in program.

as per letter to you

I have tried in every way possible to cooperate with Mr. Glasse but have found his attitude toward the Native work and myself just what the above indicates, and just what you found and related to my son Ralph and myself when you visited here.

There are somethings that I cannot understand, nor square with the program of Presbyterian work in Alaska. I know that Mr.Glasse thinks that there is not room for two Presbyterian churches in Juneau, and that if the Native work succeeds in the new program, it will conflict with his program. We should not encourage any white even those married to natived to unite with our church. This was said last week again as we surveyed sites for the proposed plant.

As to the name "Waggoner Memorial" we feel in our family that it would be folly to so name the plant. We would have Glasse and every other white who is anti-native up in arms. I have written to the Scheides in answer to their letter stating that Mrs.Scheide had proposed our name, that it would be unwise to name the plant for a living missionary, and that we were satisfied to have our memorial in the assurance of their love and the love of the people among whom we have served. I told Mr. Glasse personally that we would object to having our name appear in the memorial. This ought to remove any misapprehension from his mind.

We have appointed a committee from the church to choose a site and communicate with you. We have a committee of seven, three of them elders of the Session, a representative from the Sunday School, One from the Young People, and one a man not a member, but who will repsent his wife for the Missionary Society. This last man is White. Our son Ralph was chosen from the Session and made chairman of the committee. This committee will canvas the church for their desires in the matter, and ascertain the cost of available sites. As soon as this committee is ready to report they will communicate with you. I am not sitting with the committee, for I want their reaction.There are two of the older people, ~~one~~ two middle aged, and three young people on the commttee.

married to native women

It is my turn to attend the Assembly next May at Columbus. The week preceeding Assembly our son graduates from Princeton Seminary. It would be a great joy to us to be able to attend his graduation and later his ordination. Oursfurlough year was in 1936. We have held off so that Assembly and furlough could be taken together. Mrs. Waggoner cannot afford to go east unless we can secure transportaion. You spoke during the meeting of Presbytery that you could get passes for the missionaries in the States. Can you furnish Mrs. Waggoner with a pass from Seattle to New York and return, and myself from Columbus east? If such can be done we plan to visit the Scheides, Wilkinsburgh and Mrs. Childs in Chatham,N.J. and her daughter in New York. These persons are correspondents of ours. Mr. Childs gave us the money which built the Mission Boat Lois. They have given through Dr,Young and other sources to our work many times. The Riverside people also want us to visit them if possible. Will you let us know whether it will be possible for us to get transportation, and this be able to visit our son. He has applied for service in Africa.

I have written of several matters in this letter. I have done so in order to present a view of the whole problem confronting us. I have one request to make in the cause of peace. Do not quote me when you write to Glasse. It will only add fuel to his fire. I have written openly and freely for you alone, for I believe you sensed the conditions here when in Juneau. Wtih best wishes for 1937 I am

Sincerely yours, David Waggoner

Mr. Hunt is in Washington until Feb 15th. He thinks it impossible for us to Coyne - He estimates cost of such building at $25000 to $40,000

Jan.
19th
1937

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I am writing this separate letter with reference to your attendance at the meeting of the General Assembly this year. We shall be very glad to extend to you and Mrs. Waggoner the usual furlough privileges of four months, which are granted under the Board's present rules and to which you were entitled last year but which you did not take because Mr. Pederson was the Commissioner to the Assembly.

I think there will be no difficulty in getting a railroad pass for you from Seattle to Los Angeles, and from Los Angles to Chicago. However, it is not possible for us to obtain any passes for you on the railroads east of Chicago, nor will any railroads either east or west grant passes to the wives of missionaries.

Of course you will want to visit the Scheides, and I am sure that Dr. Taylor will want you to visit his church in Wilkinsburg. Mrs. Childs of Chatham passed away a few weeks ago. She was a good friend of all forms of missionary work.

Let me know after the election of commissioners takes place, and I will take up the matter of securing these passes for you at once. I am quite sure that Dr. Taylor's church will be willing to pay your expenses from Chicago to Wilkinsburg in order to have you in their church, and on the way you could stop in Columbus without any extra expense. The expense from Pittsburgh to Titusville to visit the Scheides would be very slight. Be assured that I will do everything to facilitate your trip.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Jan.
19th
1937

Rev. David Waggoner,
Box 1421,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I have read with much interest your letter of January 12th.

With reference to the situation at Douglas, I think you will realize my embarrassment in rendering a decision as to whether we should abandon the mission work you have been doing there and let the Episcopalians take it over, or provide rental for a building in which the little group of "small children and a few old people" that you have been sponsoring there may hold their Sunday school services. In the interests of comity and in view of the fact that Mrs. Davis, who I understand is a school teacher, feels that the Episcopalians ought to be given full responsibility there, and also in view of the fact that Mr. Glasse as Chairman of the Committee on National Missions concurs in her view, it would seem that their judgment should prevail. I would suggest, however, that if this arrangement is not satisfactory to you, the members of the National Missions Committee of the Presbytery be canvassed by letter relative to the matter, with the request that they record their judgment as a vote by mail. If this is not satisfactory, I would suggest that Mr. Glasse call a meeting of the Committee, bringing the different members to Juneau for the meeting and asking Mr. Swanson to transport them on the Princeton, for a more thorough discussion of this and any other matters that need to be discussed by the Committee as a whole.

With reference to the matter of the location of the new building, it seems to me that this is a matter of sufficient importance to justify a meeting of the Presbytery's Committee on National Missions to be held in Juneau, so that the whole matter may be thoroughly discussed by the members of the Committee personally the various sites that are available considered, and then the judgment of the entire Committee registered as to the course that should be pursued.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Glasse with the suggestion that he call a meeting of the Committee at as early a date as possible.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

P. S. I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter I am writing to Mr. Glasse today.

J.M.S.

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STATED CLERK
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BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
March 30, 1937.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

I want to thank you for your fine letter of greeting which is to be read next week at our Fiftieth Anniversary. I am sure our people will appreciate your message. We will hold the special service on Wednesday evening, though part of the delegates will not arrive until the next morning. Our people are busily working to get ready for the coming of the delegates, and for attendance on the various meetings of Presbytery and Presbyterial.

We are static in our building plans until the meeting of Presbytery. It seems wise that the location of the plant should be considered by Presbytery and site approved by it. Ofcourse we will be limited by willingness of parties to sell us the lots. There is a feeling on the part of Protestants that Natives should not be near white dwellings even in a religious service. The Romanists and the Greek Church fellowship readily in all services. As far as our local church is concerned the matter lies in the hands of the officers of the church and organizations.

The Douglas situation solved itself for the present by the people of Douglas themselves. They just simply did not want to be anything but Presbyterians and refused to go to Episcopalean services. This new Alakka Evangelization Society (Presbyterian Offshoot) has access to the government building. However the refusal of the teacher to allow us to use the building has strengthened our own people. We have been holding services in a Native home. It is inadequate. We had twenty six out for communion service Sunday, and twenty five in Sunday School. A simple building is needed for Douglas. It could be built cheaply and would help the work. Three have united with the church on profession.

Mr.Glasse has been unable to sell the General Missionary Cottage to date. The hillside location is against its sale. It is impossible for a mother with small children to go to and from the house without great effort. We hope for the sale, for we want to be in the new plant before winter.

At our annual meeting the old officers, I mean in age, were replaced by younger and more active members. We have had a great deal of trouble with these older people with intoxication. The new officers though younger have been more faithful. All of us feel that we have Elders and Deacons whom we can reppect and follow. Perhaps the older people feel that the building of the new plant should be carried out by the younger men and women. All the members seem to think we have the proper officers. It is evident that the expectation of the new plant for our religious life is strengthening the young people of the congregation. The older people cannot visualize anything but a building like the present one.

Mrs. Waggoner has not been well since last summer. Apparently she is in perfect health, as she looks like it. For some months she has had trouble with breathing when she walks, especially about town and up and down the steps. Mrs.Waggoner has been under the doctors care for four months and taken treatments for three months. Our own doctor has examined her blood pressure, her heart, and her metabolism for blood condition. All reactions have been normal. The doctor is puzzled, unless there is an inside goiter. An operation may have to be had but we hope not. Mrs. Waggoner will not wait for me and my going to the Assembly, but will go earlier and visit her sister and rest a few days, before proceeding to Kansas City. The rest may help out in diagnosis.

We learned last week that our son Robert, who graduates from Princeton in May, is commissioned by the Foreign Board to Columbia, South America. We also learn that his wedding will preceed his graduation so that he may take his bride to his graduation, and remain in the east until after the conference of Missionaries in New York the middle of June.

I am planning to leave Juneau May 3rd via Seattle , St,Paul and Chicago to Kansas City, to arrive there in time for the wedding service. I go this route because I have business in St.Paul.

Could you forward Mrs. Waggoner's transportation fare Juneau to Seattle? My fare will be paid by the Assembly. The fare on main deck is $41.00. I understand that the Commerce Commission has permitted the Steamship Company to raise their fare $5.00 June 1st. I suppose this is to help out in the loss from the strike, or to offset the cheap dollar. (Freight rates have jumped also).

What about the visit to Wilkinsburg and Titusville? If they are made they should preceed the meeting of Assembly. There will be time enough between wedding and Assembly.

I am sure that you will have us in mind in the Board rooms during our celebration. We are praying that the meetings shall be fruitful of much blessing and good. I am sure your prayers will help us in getting the blessing.

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner,

SPRING CONCERT

By

First Presbyterian Church Choir

April 5, 1957

First Presbyterian Church

PROGRAM

Finlandia ..... Sibelius
As Torrents in Summer ..... Elgar
Legende ..... Tschaikowsky
Choir
****

Oh Divine Redeemer ..... Gounod
Evening Prayer from Hansel and Gretel
Humperdinck
Lift Thine Eyes ..... Mendelssohn
Women's Chorus
****

King Jesus is a'listenin .... Spiritual
Roll Jordan Roll ..... Spiritual
O Lord, Send the Fire ..... Spiritual
These Spirituals arranged by Nobel Cain
Choir
****

Climb up Chillun, Climb ..... Spiritual
Male Quartet
Serenade ..... Schubert
Frank Wilson
Oh my Soul Bless Thou Jehovah
Donizetti-Herbert
Robert Martin and Ralph Waggoner
I'se Been Listening ..... Spiritual
Look Away to Heaven ..... Spiritual
Male Quartet
****

And the Glory of the Lord
from the Messiah ..... Handel
Sanctus ..... Gounod
And the Glory of God in Nature
Beethoven
Choir
****

This concert marks the beginning of a weeks celebration in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the First Presbyterian Church in Juneau, Alaska. The proceeds will be used to help entertain the Presbytery and Presbyterial meeting with us this week.

PERSONNEL OF THE CHOIR
.....

Soprano
Mrs. Frank Barlow
Mrs. James Goenett
Mrs. Ingwald Petersen

Alto
Mrs. Ernest Hayes
Miss Clara Seevers
Mrs. Villoria
Mrs. David Waggoner

Additional Members in
Women's Chorus
Mrs. Rowena Hayes
Mrs. J. Paddock
Mrs. G. Tonsgard
Mrs. C. Zuboff

Tenor
Frank Wilson

Bass
Robert Martin
Rev. David Waggoner
Roy Williams

Director
Ralph P. Waggoner

Accompanist
Dorothy C. Waggoner

THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
of the

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Juneau, Alaska.

April 7, 1957.

.....

PROGRAM
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

Hymn 111
"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name.

Invocation- Rev. E.E.Bromley,
Response

Scripture- Rev. Russell F. Pederson.

Choir- "As Torrents in Summer", Elgar.

Welcome- Elder James Jackson.

Brief History of Church.
Rev. David Waggoner.

Address- The Presbyterian Church in Alaska. Governor of Alaska, Hon. John W.Troy.

Address- The Presbyterian Church in the City. Mayor of Juneau, Hon.Isadore Goldstein.

Choir- " The Glory of God in Nature."
Beethoven.

Fraternal Greetings- Ministerial Association Juneau- Douglas, Rev.O.L.Kendall, President.

Greetings from Northern Light Church, Rev. John A. Glasse, Pastor.

Greetings from Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church, Dr. John M. Somerndike, Secretary.

Greetings from First Presbyterian Church, Wilkinsburg, Pa. A Supporter of Juneau First Church.
Dr. George Taylor, Jr. Pastor.

Doxology.

Benediction- Rev. George J.Beck.

April 10th, 1937

Rev. David Waggoner
Box 1421
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I have your letter of March 30th. We are thinking of you during the celebration of your fiftieth anniversary, and we are uniting our prayers with yours that you may all experience a blessing and that the celebration of this anniversary occasion will mark the beginning of the new and deeper interest in the development of our church work among the native people in Juneau.

I shall await with interest the action of the Presbytery with reference to the location of the new church so that plans can go forward more speedily toward the realization of the new building.

I had a letter from Mr. Glasse recently in which he stated he was not making any progress in the matter of selling the missionary cottage and suggesting that these negotiations be turned over to you. I told him that that was entirely satisfactory to me. I hope that you will do everything you possibly can, cooperating with Mr. Glasse, or on your own initiative if he prefers it that way, to secure a buyer, so that we can work out the plans for the new living quarters for you and Mrs. Waggoner, and also in order that we may know just what we shall have to depend upon in the way of funds for the new building.

I am interested to learn that Robert is going to be married and that he has an appointment to a foreign mission field. He is keeping up the family tradition in a splendid way and I know how gratifying that will be to you and to all the Waggoners.

We shall forward a check for Mrs. Waggoner's transportation from Juneau to Seattle, amounting to $41, as you requested, the understanding being, of course, that your furlough is due

this year and that the Presbytery has elected you as its Commissioner to the General Assembly.

I think that you ought to take advantage of being in Columbus at the General Assembly to visit the church in Wilkinsburg, and also to visit Mr. and Mrs. Scheide in Titusville. Would it be safe for me to offer your services in the Wilkinsburg Church for Sunday, May 30th? They will want you to stay a few days after Sunday of course. I think you could run up to Titusville and see Mr. and Mrs. Scheide on May 28th or 29th. You will not want to say with them more than a day or so I am sure.

Please let me hear from you about these matters.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

Juneau, Alaska
April 17, 1937

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

Enclosed is a petition from the building committee of the Native Church asking that the Board select and purchase the half block on West Ninth Street between C and D Street for the site of the new memorial church plant. We have given our reasons in the petition for selecting this site as the most desirable. We hope our work will help you.

The members of the building committee, whose signatures are found on the petition, are a representative committee from the congregation of the Native church duly selected by the session. Three are elders from the session--Mr. James Jackson, an old member of the church and a leader among the old people; Mrs. Holst, a faithful worker and an influential member of the church; and myself. One represents the young people--Mrs. Peterson, a faithful officer of the Christian Endeavor Society. One represents the Sunday School--Mrs. Cropley, a reliable regular Sunday School teacher. Her husband is president of the local chapter of the Alaska Native Brotherhood. One represents the congregation at large--Mr. Gamble, another leader among the old people. He has been, at different times, an officer in the church, and with Mr. Jackson expresses the thought of the old people. One represents those whom the new church will reach that are not now reached by any church in Juneau--Mr. Oswald, a white man, the husband of a refined, educated half-breed girl who is a member of and worker in our church. The educated mixed blood people are welcome only in particular cases in the white churches of Juneau. They have no church in which they can really feel at home and they have been ashamed to go to church in the Native mission crowded into the middle of a dirty, ugly Indian village. Their attitude is changing but a new location with a clean church will help them a lot. This man has helped a great deal on the committee and has offered to make a substantial gift toward the new church, that is substantial for a fisherman, and wants to help raise money locally for the church and do his part in erecting this needed addition to Juneau.

You may wonder why such a fine location has never been taken before. For years Mr. Shattuck has withheld this whole block from open sale, planning some day to sell it to the city for a school site for the west end of town. It is ideal for such a purpose but since the use of buses has been inaugurated there seems no likelihood of the city ever building any ward schools within the city limits. Last year Mr. Shattuck gave up his idea of keeping the block out of the market. This spring, Foss, an architect in Juneau, took an option on the block. He plans to build houses on the Tenth Street side . I have been to see him about purchasing the Ninth Street side for the construction of the new church.

He agreed that it was a fine location and said that he would like very much to draw the plans and be the architect for the plant. He is interested enough to reduce the price of the half block $300.00 from what he has agreed to pay Mr. Shattuck for it, that is if the Board will appoint him as architect for the church. He has agreed to sell the half block of five lots for $2,700.00, and do the architectural work for 6% of the total cost of the building estimated at $15,000.00.

Mr. Foss' option is good for this summer and I think he will hold off any offer for or construction on the site until he hears definitely from the Board as to whether they want the site or not.

One member of Presbytery raised the objection that the white people might not like the erection of an Indian church in such a fine location so near a number of white residences. No white person to whom I have talked living in that neighborhood has made any objection to me. No one in Juneau has brought up the question of race prejudice to us on the committee. And the architect who is planning to build five five thousand dollar residences on the Tenth Street side of the block to be sold to white people does not feel that it is jeopardizing his chance to sell these houses if an Indian church is built across the alley. He, if anyone, would be careful about the problem of race prejudice.

I have been elected lay-commissioner to General Assembly in Columbus by the Presbytery. If there are any questions you or any Board member or representative wish to ask I shall be glad to answer them there.

I hope the work of the building committee of the Native church here will be of some help to the Board in this matter which is of such vital concern to us the members of the church, to the work in Southeastern Alaska, to the Board, and to those giving money towards its construction.

Sincerely yours

Ralph P Waggoner

Juneau, Alaska
April 17, 1937

To Dr. J. M. Somerndike
New York City, N. Y.

We the members of the building committee of the First Presbyterian Church of Juneau, Alaska, after much deliberation, consultation, and prayer, wish to present our reasons for unanimously selecting the site herein mentioned as the proposed site of the new S. Hall Young Memorial Church of Juneau, Alaska. We hope that our work in this matter will be of help to the Board, and that it will show our deepfelt interest in the proposed new church.

First, it seems advisable to us to rebuild in a different location. The present church is in the old Indian village surrounded by old Indian houses. The tide comes in under the present building and makes it both unhealthy and expensive in upkeep. The present church is in a crowded, unsightly, unsanitary, unsuitable section of town. We, the committee, feel it should be moved to a site more suitable for both church and homes.

Also, the present site is limited to a building 30 feet by 50 feet, which is much smaller than the proposed new plant. We, the committee, feel that the new church should be a house of worship to which the people can look up and which they can consider a symbol of a better life spiritually and physically. We feel the church as well as being beautiful should be surrounded by the clean and beautiful; that the church should be an inspiration and an influence for the building of better homes and the growth of cleaner lives.

Second, we would like to have the manse nearer the church. The people and the minister have found it a serious handicap to have the manse on top the hill so far away from the church.

Third, the proposed site is the only piece of unoccupied level ground suitable in size for a complete church plant and manse. There are other unoccupied sites large enough for a church building alone on the tide flats, but they are unsatisfactory from a sanitary, construction, and cost standpoint. Other unoccupied ground sites are rather small for even the church building alone and not as desirable in location.

Fourth, the proposed site can be obtained at a most reasonable price and will require the least expenditure of any site available in preparation for construction. There is little excavating needed and little filling to do which lessens the cost of construction considerably. The tide flat lots, after being purchased, each would require in cost for filling alone as much or more than the price of each of the lots in the proposed site. Also the proposed site can be very easily surfaced for grass and shrubbery after construction of the new church.

Fifth, the proposed site is as nearly centrally located to the membership of the congregation as any unoccupied site available. Only a few of the members of the congregation still live in the Indian village. This number is decreasing year by year. The majority of the active membership live in the residence district immediately to the west of the proposed new site. Yet this site is only three and a half short blocks from the end of the Indian village. Three of the members of the building committee live within two blocks of the proposed site.

Because of the above reasons the committee on building has unanimously selected the half block of five lots forty by ninety feet each, on the north side of West Ninth Street, between C and D Street, in Juneau, as the most suitable for the location of the new church.

We, the undersigned, members of the building committee of the First Presbyterian Church of Juneau, Alaska, in behalf of the congregation of our church wish to thank the Board and all those contributing toward the construction of the new memorial church. We have needed a new church in a new location for some time and we feel that this church, which you are giving us, will do much to aid us in our worship, and to help the social and moral uplift of the Native people not only in Juneau but in all Southeastern Alaska.

Faithfully yours

Ralph P Waggoner, chairman

Hazel V. Peterson secretary

Mrs Marjorie Cropley

Jack Gamble

James Jackson Jr

Jennie Hall

Peter Oswald

NATIONAL MISSIONS
REV. JOHN A. GLASSE, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA

UNITED PROMOTION
REV. RUSSELL F. PEDERSON, CH.
WRANGELL, ALASKA

FOREIGN MISSIONS
REV. DONALD G. CHRISTIANSEN, CH.
KETCHIKAN, ALASKA

PRESBYTERY
OF ALASKA

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
REV. A. D. SWOGGER, CH.
METLAKATLA, ALASKA

PENSIONS
REV. DAVID WAGGONER, CH.
JUNEAU, ALASKA

STATED CLERK
REV. DAVID WAGGONER
BOX 1421, JUNEAU, ALASKA

Juneau, Alaska,
April 20, 1937.

Dr. John M. Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City.

Dear Doctor:

Presbytery and Presbyterial have come and gone. We have had a fine series of services and in most ways helpful meetings. The task of caring for the visitors has brought our people closer to each other, the common interests and responsibilities were shared sympathetically. The Northern Light friends helped in caring for the whites and their women's society serve meals one day. Presbytery was in session from Wednesday until the following Monday evening.

Your letter of greeting was much appreciated at the gathering in commemoration of the organization of the Church. I have sent you the Daily Empire which gave a good account of these special services. The entire week held the public interest, and the papers gave us good publicity, and as you will find in the editorial of the 9th, quite an appreciation of the work of the Presbyterian Church in Alaska.

Ralph trained the Choir for a special concert which was given on Monday night preceeding the opening of Presbytery. The public has been interested in the work of the Choir for the past two years. The choral singing at Christmas time has attracted attention, and the numbers given over the Radio &c have received gratifying comment. The Choir felt that the concert would be fitting in opening our weeks celebration. The receipts from the sale of tickets were turned over to the Committee on Entertainment to help in providing the dinner and supper meals which were served to the delegates in a common eating room. The different organizations of the church in special ways contributed to the entertainment expense so that the Church treasury had only fuel and light expense for the meetings of Presbytery and Presbyterial.

The Offering of Sunday Communion Service which amounted to ~~over~~ $13.49 is for National Missions. This amount at the order of Presbytery is to be credited as a gift from the First Church. I will forward the amount with this letter.

I do not know how much we accomplished in locating a site for our new Church Building. The Chairman of the National Missions Committee was set against any place outside the present surroundings. The Committee was evidently divided. So the recommendation for both Juneau and Sitka was that the Board send a representative to settle the locations for both Churches. The Sitka representatives forced the issue on the floor of Presbytery and Presbytery upheld the request of the Sitka Church. I believe 90% of the delegates of Presbytery favored the desired location presented by our Church. But the Chairman felt so keenly about our location that it would have precipitated a fight between his congregation and ours. For the sake of avoiding trouble which might have been deemed personal I consented to leave the matter with you. Our Church Committee has written to you and you can learn from this source what is desired. I have had no objection from any person in town over the proposed site, nor from any member of

Presbytery, and nearly all the members have expressed themselves to me unsolicited. The Natives of Presbytery would have voted for our requested site to a man.

Matters in our family have shaped themselves quite rapidly and to the point within the last two weeks. We have learned definitely from our son Robert that he is to be married on June 3, appear for ordination at Kansas City June 6th, expected in New York for the Foreign Board's Conference for new missionaries June 8-14, and sails from New York on June 17th. The only way Mrs. Waggoner and I will get to see Robert is to go to Princeton for his graduation, and after Assembly go to Kansas City for his ordination. This will give us most of a week with him. The Church at Leonia where Robert has worked as student assistant the last year is taking part of his support in South America. The Church has asked that Roberts fiancee come east for his graduation and visit the Church at Leonia so that the people can get acquainted with both the young people. We will thus get acquainted with Maxine also while at Princeton.

I will try to run up to New York for a conference with you while we are in Princeton. Our son Ralph lost his work at the Hotel just at the time of Presbytery. During the meeting of Presbytery the Commissioner of Education for the Territory asked Ralph and his wife to go to Kenai and care for the school there. He gave them contracts at an increased salary with quarters, fuel, and light added. They signed the contracts and are due to go to Kenai the last of June where Ralph will look after having the school building repaired and wired for electricity. This work is done on salary, that is his pay in the school begins July 1st.

When Presbytery learned of Ralph's new position, and in appreciation of his services since in Juneau, and the fact that the First Church has never had an elder to represent it, chose Ralph unanimously to go to Columbus as commissioner. So Ralph will be in Columbus together with his wife, Mrs. Waggoner and myself, and my brother Dr.Ralph Waggoner, pastor from Sedalia Missouri. Brother Ralph is National Missions Chairman for Missouri Synod.

This is a great year in family history. One hundred years ago David Waggoner graduated from Western Seminary and became a home missionary in Mercer County Pa. For 95 years out of the 100 the name of David Waggoner has been on the Assembly's Roll. Grandfather died in 1896 at the age of 89, having preached his last sermon at a funeral of an early Pennsylvania parishoner. I was ordained just five years later in the same month in which Grandfather died. My first Assembly was at Columbus in 1907. Robert will be ordained on Grandfathers 100th anniversary--though not the exact day. So our trip to Assembly will mean much to the family.

I received a letter from Dr.Taylor bringing greetings to our Church on its Anniversary. The Wilkinsburg Church is expecting us to make a visit in May. The time between May 18th, graduation day for Robert, and May 24th at which time we expect to go to Columbus for Pre-Assembly meetings can be spent in Pittsburg, Wilkinsburg, and Titusville. I want to talk to you before we contact the Scheide's. If Wilkinsburg wishes we could take part in services Sunday the 23rd. You might reach me in reply to these suggestions at Dr.Thomson's Office. We will leave Juneau too early for a reply to reach us here.

The Riverside Church did not get their greetings to us in time for our celebration. I received Dr.Egly's letter this morning. He asks that their church be visited either before or after the Assembly. If transportation can be arranged we could visit their church in July before we come north. I am planning to leave Seattle July 17th with a Party visiting the Matanuska. Dr.Egly intimates that Calvary Church will contribute to the building of the Juneau First plant.

Mrs. Waggoner has been far from well this winter. I believe I wrote to you to this effect. The Doctors here do not know what is the matter. She has choking spells like the effect of an internal goiter. The tests given here for goiter, heart, digestion, respiration, and in fact any other idea has proved normal. We will visit a specialist either in Chicago or Rochester, Minn. We cannot at this time tell the prognosis. We hope for the best. If possible we will have the visit with Robert and Pittsburgh, unless the Doctor says that an immediate operation is necessary.

Ralph and I are planning for a conference with you, and any other member of the Board which you consider advisable, on the work at Juneau and the erection of the Church Building. I am very anxious to see things started by August 1st, at which time I am planning to be here for consultation and to get the Fall work under way.

Looking forward to our meeting in your office and the Assembly I am

Sincerely yours,

David Waggoner

April 30th, 1937

Rev. David Waggoner
Box 1421
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I have your letter of April 20th, together with the petition from your Building Committee of the native church in Juneau. I am sorry that the Presbytery did not take definite action with reference to the location of the new building. This is really a responsibility of the Presbytery and not of the Board. Personally I do not feel competent to decide the question, nor do I feel that the Board should be asked to make the decision. The native church is a member of the Alaska Presbytery, and under our Constitution the Presbytery has full authority with reference to the location of all churches within its bounds. However, I shall be glad to talk over the matter with you at the meeting of the General Assembly, and when we discuss it we may be able to get some further light upon it. I do not think that the problem will be solved by having a representative of the Board go to Alaska this summer to talk over the situation.

The plans you are making to attend Robert's wedding and his ordination, together with the plans you are making to visit Wilkinsburg and Riverside Churches seem to me to be very satisfactory.

Sorry to learn of the indisposition of Mrs. Waggoner. I am glad that you are going to have the opportunity to bring her to the States in order to consult the best medical authorities in the hope that her condition may be relieved.

With every good wish, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

RALPH P. WAGGONER
JUNEAU, ALASKA
BOX 1421

Columbus, Ohio
June 1st, 1937

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

In answer to your question as to the location and price of the proposed site of the new S. Hall Young Memorial Church of Juneau, Alaska, I am enclosing a definition of the site and the price asked by the option holder of the ground.

The proposed site for the S. Hall Young Memorial Church of Juneau, Alaska is the half block of 5 lots numbered 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, respectfully, in block number 218 of the city of Juneau. This half block is bordered on the south by Ninth street and on the east and west by C and D streets. The half block is 200 feet long and 90 feet deep, large enough for a complete church plant (Church and manse), and the holder of the option on this property, Mr. H. B. Foss, asks $2,700.00 cash for it.

Sincerely yours
Ralph P Waggoner

SANITATION IS UNDER FIRE AT C. OF C. MEETING

Sanitary Engineer Points Out Need for Clearing Up Waterfront Conditions

After hearing an address by Ben L. Grimes, Territorial Sanitary Engineer, on the need for better sewage disposal in Juneau, the Juneau Chamber of Commerce at its meeting this noon in the Terminal Cafe decided to take the matter up with the City Council and property owners in an effort to rectify the condition.

Mr. Grimes told the Chamber that there was danger of an epidemic of disease from the open sewage conditions prevailing on Lower Franklin and in other parts of the town, including Willoughby Avenue. He declared that due to the expense it would be impossible to clean up the trouble in a short time but that persistent effort should be directed to that end as a preventaive measure against disease.

The Rev. John A. Glasse of the Northern Light Presbyterian church said that the First Presbyterian Church was considering spending some $15,000 to $20,000 for a new building but that the membership was hesitating in relocating on Willoughby Avenue due to unsanitary conditions along the waterfront.

"The whole waterfront needs cleaning up," he said. "It would benefit property owners and general conditions in the city. It is a serious matter that needs attention."

Several other speakers voiced a similar sentiment and Presiding Officer Charles W. Carter named the Community Health Committee, headed by Charles G. Burdick, to take the matter up with the Council.

The Chamber placed its endorsement on Child Health Week, starting May 1, and will sponsor an address over the radio on the subject as well as having a speaker before the Chamber.

Decision to protest the bill now before Congress proposing a one cent per gallon tax on fuel oil was voted after a communication was read from the Union Oil Company on the subject.

Kenneth Ferguson of the Juneau Schools was a guest as representative of the Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Union Company To Build New Plant Here

Erection of a new Union Oil Company storage plant and wharf within the city limits will begin next month, J. E. Boyle, Alaska district manager of the company, announced today.

Although Boyle asserted that the plans for the new structure are still indefinite, it was reported today that the plant will be situated in the same locality as the new Standard Oil Company plant, with the wharf extending between the S. O. dock and the Government dock.

Another report placed the site of the new structure on the Alaska-Juneau rock dump.

The gasoline and oil tanks, at present on the old site near the Thane road, will be moved into town and new tanks will be built at the plant, thus greatly increasing the present storage capacity, Boyle said.

Completely modern equipment for storing and handling gasoline and oil will be installed and all possible new safety devices will be provided, Boyle said.

Work on the plant will probably begin as soon as the company finishes its present wharf and plant project at Sitka. All local labor will be employed, and two engineers from the Sitka job will assist K. B. Stevens, resident engineer for the company, who is expected to arrive in Juneau soon to complete the plans.

One advantage of the new plant will be that more summer grade gas will be stored here, Boyle pointed out. The lighter grade, the same as used in the States during the summer, is in great demand here, he said. A shipment from Seattle was recently brought in a Foss barge by the tug "Andrew Foss" to the Thane storage tanks.

June 11th, 1937

Mr. E. N. Conover
Interdenominational Bureau of
Church Architecture
105 East 22nd Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Conover:

We are arranging for the building of a new native church in Juneau, Alaska. We want a building that will contain an auditorium that will seat about one hundred people, and we would like to have this auditorium elevated so that it will not be necessary for us to do very much excavating for a basement. In other words, we would like to have about a half basement, sufficiently high above the ground to provide windows above the ground level all around. This basement could be used for recreational purposes and should be equipped for church dinners, with kitchen, etc.

The rear of the building should run crosswise to the auditorium and it should be adapted to the program for the children and young people. It should have a separate room for the Beginners and Primary pupils; another room for the Junior and Intermediate grades; and another room for the Young People and Adults. The enrollment of the entire school is about one hundred so it will not be necessary for these rooms to be large.

Classrooms should be provided, if possible, for five or six classes in addition to the room which will accommodate the Beginners and Primary pupils. We would like the room for this building, which would be rectangular in shape, to be partitioned off to provide one room for reading room, library, etc., another room as a game room, and also a room to accommodate the Ladies' Aid Society for their special activities. The remainder of the space can be partitioned off in classrooms. Probably there would not be space for more than three or four small classrooms.

The building will be of frame construction. We want to keep the expense of the building down to the lowest possible minimum. Therefore we want to avoid any ornate features.

The basement for the religious education annex need not be

excavated unless you feel that it would be better to have a basement and one story than to have a two-story building without a basement.

We want to avoid a high pitched roof in order to save fuel and heating the building, and the roof of the educational building I presume could be either a plain flat roof or with a slight pitch one way sufficient to carry off the rain.

With this rather crude outline, would it be possible for you to sketch a building which you think would accommodate the purposes we have in view? And if so, what would it cost to provide the preliminary plans and specifications? I should be glad to confer with you about the matter personally if you feel that it is desirable.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS

THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL

BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE

ELBERT M. CONOVER, DIRECTOR

105 EAST 22ND STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

CARLOS M. DINSMORE, CHAIRMAN
23 EAST 26TH STREET, NEW YORK
FRED W. MUELLER, SECRETARY
1701 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA
WILLIAM R. KING, EXECUTIVE SEC'Y
THE HOME MISSION COUNCIL
(REPRESENTING 26 CHURCH BOARDS)

June 15th, 1937

(This letter sent in from trip.)

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

In reply to your letter of June 11th, I shall be very glad to have a plan worked out, following your suggestions, for Juneau, Alaska. I am now on a short trip and am writing for your opinion on this suggestion.

Would it do as well to have the worship room on the main floor level without a basement, except for furnace room, then across the rear of this unit a two-story educational building similar to the Bayhead Plan illustrated on the clipping enclosed? The first floor, which may be placed not more than, say three feet below grade, has the several rooms with a ceiling height of not more than eight feet. Then the hall for social recreational work is on the floor above instead of under the church. The ceiling height necessary for stage and general use is secured by the open timber roof. In the case of Juneau the pitch can be lessened as you suggest. However, by using insulation material a ceiling and roof can be thoroughly insulated against cold. The side walls need not be more than eight feet in order to secure a ceiling height of, say twelve feet through the center portion of the room.

If you are to be in your office June 22nd or 23rd, I shall be very glad to confer with you. If not, please write me and we shall be glad to have the plans pushed right along. It would help to know when you need them. Our architects will prepare a set of preliminary plans and exterior view for $35.00., this to be part payment on account of the complete work of preparing the working and large scale detailed drawings and specifications, if you wish those prepared after the preliminary plans have been revised to follow your further suggestions and criticisms. I shall ask the architects to name a flat fee for the whole work. In any event I shall be glad to have an outline plan prepared for you without further obligation. Have you had Mr. Lamont do any architectural work for you?

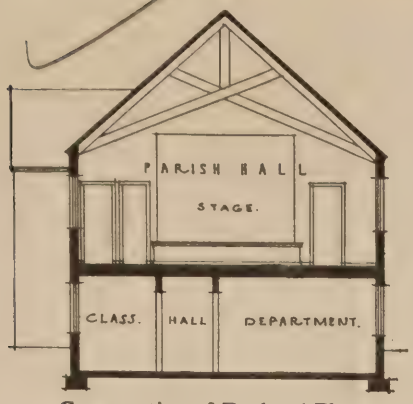
Assuring you of our very real interest in this important problem,

Very truly yours,

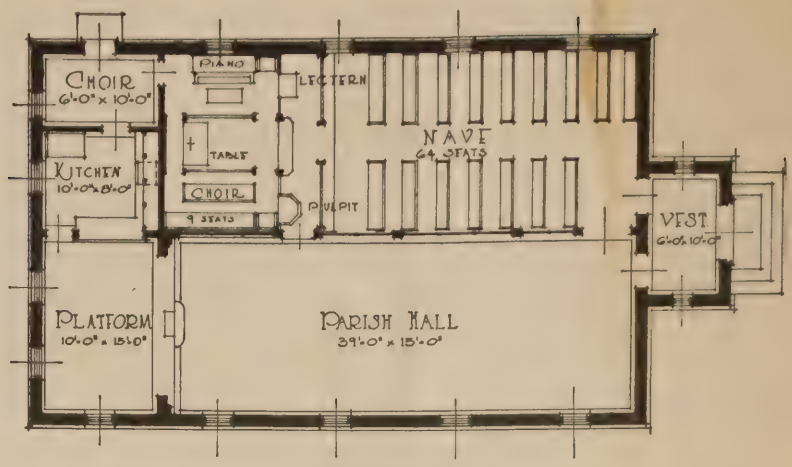
E. M. Conover

E. M. Conover

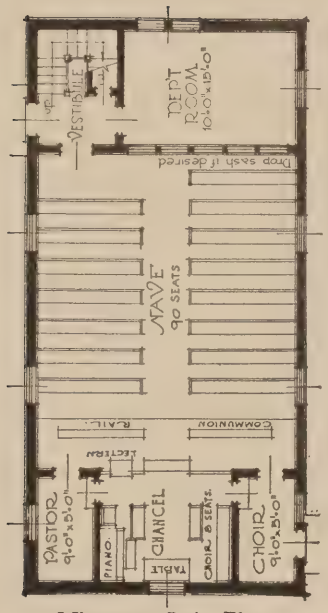
EMC:dw



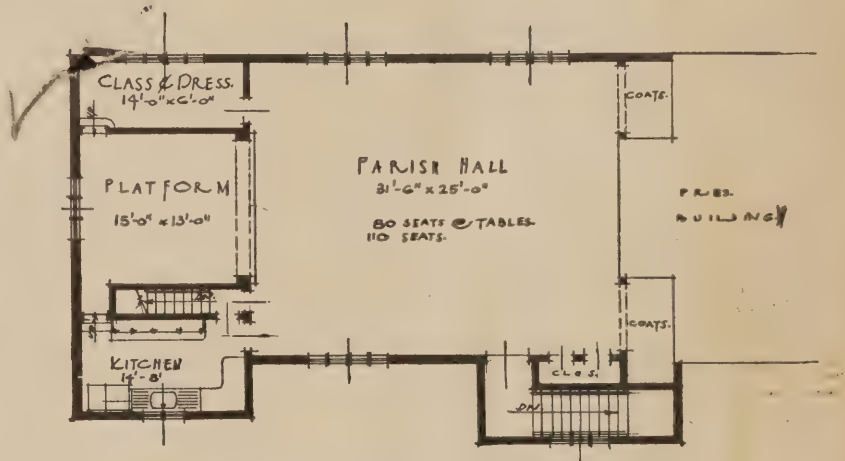
Cross section of Bayhead Plan showing high ceiling possible on second floor Parish Hall



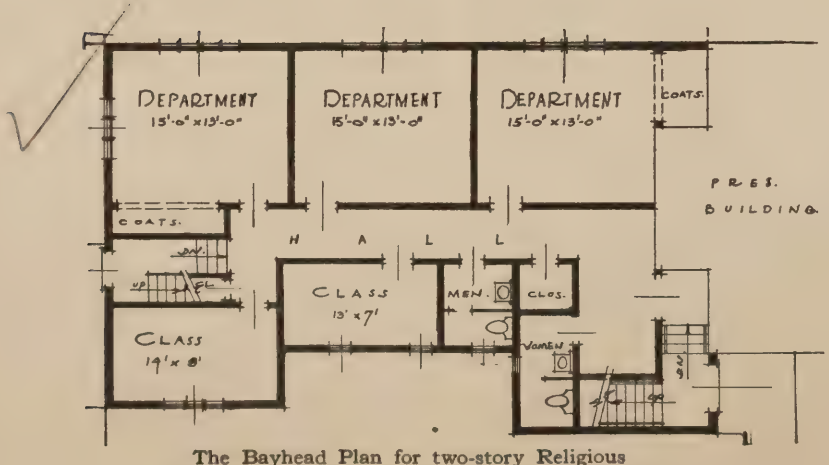
Hickman Floor Plan



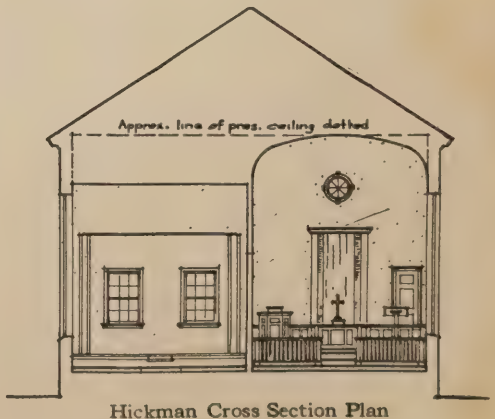
Minnesota Lake Plan Main Floor



Second Floor—The Bayhead Plan



The Bayhead Plan for two-story Religious Educational and Social Addition—main floor



Hickman Cross Section Plan

Improving a One-Room Church Building

ELBERT M. CONOVER

Minnesota Lake Plan. Added Second Floor

THOUSANDS of American children and youth receive their religious training in one-room church buildings. Much can be done to make this very inadequate equipment more effective. Certainly this is a need that should command the attention of the church, for there are ten thousand one-room church buildings in the Methodist Episcopal Church alone. Many of these are adjacent to well-equipped, modern public-school buildings. While everybody knows about the situation, the next question is to do something about it.

Remodeling by constructing partitions. A one-room church is as illogical as a one-room house. Very significant improvements are often possible by simply constructing partitions; and we mean partitions and not folding doors or other such expensive and unsatisfactory contraptions. Some one-room buildings may even be divided right in two by erecting a partition throughout the center line of the building. On one side of this partition a very churchly sanctuary may be arranged and probably it will have far better proportions and be more effective for services of worship than was possible in the building as originally erected. On the other side of the partition the pews are cleared away and this space may be divided into rooms as desired. We believe that two thousand Methodist Episcopal church buildings could be greatly improved by this plan. The Bureau of Architecture is prepared to offer more definite suggestions for individual cases. In some buildings the ceiling is of sufficient height to have a two-story section of rooms on one side of this new "down the middle" partition. (Notice the cut entitled, "The Hickman Plan.")

Partitions across the rear. A number of one-room churches have vacant space and unneeded pews at the rear of the room. It is very practicable, frequently, to erect a partition and a floor to provide two floors of rooms as shown in the "Minnesota Lake Plan." Either space, of course, may be subdivided into two rooms. Solid partitions are desirable but as a concession to the sometimes insurmountable demand to have overflow space (for big funerals and other community events) drop sash may be constructed in the partition so that a panel or window may be opened between the room and the sanctuary.

Many one-room buildings may be improved in appearance as well as to provide useful, separate rooms, by partitioning off rooms at the front of the building as indicated in the "Minnesota Lake Plan." Or, of course, two rooms may be arranged at the rear of the room and these would be very convenient during services of worship for little children and for wraps.

Sub-dividing the entire building by constructing a new floor. Some buildings are of sufficient height to divide the entire building into two stories by constructing a new floor. If the lower floor is to be used for church-school purposes only, a ceiling height of nine feet is quite sufficient for all of the rooms; but if it is desired to have a rather large hall for assembly purposes or parish social and recreational activities, the ceiling height should be twelve feet at least. The sanctuary then will be on the upper floor where a high ceiling is likely to be possible as well as to have the room clear of posts and pillars, the original roof construction being retained.

New additions. After making the most of the present building within the existing four walls, the next step, of course, is to erect additions without the building, in the form of wings at the sides or an addition at the rear. The "Bayhead Plan" illustrates a moderate-sized addition of this type which could be located in various positions at the side or rear of the existing building. It is undesirable in most cases to erect an addition along the side, for light is extinguished from the sides of the present sanctuary and the appearance of the building is likely to be better if the existing sanctuary is allowed to retain a dominant position in the completed project.

The first step toward an improvement program is to make an examination or survey of the existing equipment and compare the findings with the requirements for even a minimum program of ministries such as the church should be expected to conduct in the community. The Bureau of Architecture will be glad to forward blanks for making such a study. The services of the Bureau are available to make recommendations for individual problems. The following minimum standards are suggested for the small churches:

1. The sanctuary or worship room to be of good proportions, producing an atmosphere conducive to worship; level floor, good acoustics, no distracting elements. Proper arrangements for observing the sacraments and ritual.

2. Wall and woodwork carefully designed as to color scheme and aesthetic value.

3. Not less than three rooms in addition to the sanctuary. A minimum of five rooms, if possible.

4. Walls and floors as nearly soundproof as possible.

5. Proper heating, lighting, and ventilation.

6. A bulletin board indicating the hours of service, address of the minister, and his available hours for interviews and service.

7. At least one room for special gatherings of church community, thirty by fifty feet in size, if possible.

8. Basement floors, if unavoidable, should not be more than three feet below grade.

9. The best possible sanitary facilities that can be provided in the community.

10. Provision for wraps, hats, and rubbers; built-in cabinets for books, supplies, and so on.

11. Attractive hangings and well-selected pictures.

12. Equipment, such as: blackboards, tables, and chairs of proper heights; stereopticon or moving picture projector; workers' library; maps, fireplaces, and so on.

See: *Rebuilding the Town and Country Church*, 50 cents; *Church Building Examination Blank*, 10 cents; *Housing and Equipment for the Church School*, 50 cents; *Building the House of God*, two dollars. Write to The Interdenominational Bureau of Architecture, 105 East Twenty-second Street, New York City, for information.

June
18th
1937

Mr. E. M. Conover,
105 East 22nd St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Conover:

Thank you very much for your letter of June 15th. I will be glad if you can call in my office on June 22nd for a conference with reference to the Juneau building project.

With sincere thanks and appreciation of your kind consideration, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

Juneau, Alaska,
June 17,1937

Dr John A Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

Please add these clippings to those sent you in my long letter by air mail today.

These are from our two local papers of this date; and while they both deal with our expected small boat harbor, together they give a picture not given in either.

You will please understand that the government's Navy Commission approved the Juneau project a short time ago, so that it is no longer a dream; rather it is only a question of how soon the money will actually be appropriated.

With our Chamber of Commerce recommending to City Council an increased tax levy, this should confirm our position with reference to the Presbyterian Church for Juneau natives, and convince you that this agitation for improvement of all our waterfront is now producing results. I suggest that the Board keep step in the matter of a location for the new native work.

Cordially yours,

John Wiglasse

June 17

CHAMBER WILL ASK BOOST IN CITY TAX LEVY

Says Money Needed To Pay City's Portion Of Small Boat Harbor Development

An additional city tax of two mills, bringing the total levy for Juneau to 20 mills, will be sought by the Juneau Chamber of Commerce to take care of the city's part in developing the proposed small boat harbor here, it was revealed at the Chamber luncheon this noon at Percy's Cafe.

Allen Shattuck, Chairman of the small boat harbor commttee, has been instructed to draw up a resolution which will be presented the City Council, asking that body to make the additional levy as effective for the present tax year. It is estimated such a tax would raise around $10,000 per year.

In bringing up the tax matter, it was pointed out by Norman C. Banfield and Mr. Shattuck that the Army recommendation now before Congress, which would provide $232,000 for the building of a small boat harbor just north of the Douglas Island bridge on the mainland side of the channel, is dependent on the city's agreeing to do a certain share of the work such as building floats, installng lighting system, putting in a retaining wall if it develops one is needed, and other incidentals. Whether the government will insist that the City have the money on hand to do such work before it will proceed, if the appropriation is approved by Congress, has not been determined, it was stated, but it is certain, Mr. Shattuck said, that the city must agree to take care of its portion of the development.

Mr. Shattuck reporteo that he had word that the small boat harbor item had a good chance of getting approved in the general rivers and harbors bill, but that it develops that if it has to go through as a special item it may not get action until the next session of Congress.

June 17

Work On Harbor May Start This Season

Hope for action this year on the Juneau small boat harbor was voiced at a meeting of the Juneau Chamber of Commerce this noon in Percy's Cafe.

It was reported that U. S. army engineers had notified chamber officers that if the rivers and harbors bill passes Congress at this sesion prior to passage of the general appropriations bill, action may be expected this year; otherwise, it will be deferred until next year's appropriation bill.

Since the city will be required to provide floats and facilities for the harbor, it was urged that a committee appear before the city council and propose that steps be taken immediately to set up a fund for this purpose.

Juneau, Alaska,
June 17,1937

Dr John M Somerndike,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,

Dear Doctor Somerndike:

No doubt you received my night letter of the 15th as follows - "Protest your taking action proposed in yours of seventh containing glaring mistatemerts and after hearing only one side stop Presbytery positively did not refer matter to you for decision and you cannot assume Presbytery's powers stop Letter leaving here Thursday air mail should help avoid grave mistake and permanent harm." In support of that night letter permit me to comment in detail upon your letter.

"I have had several conferences with Mr Waggoner relative to the location of the native church": That is no more than we expected; but please refer in your files to "#8" in my letter of April 21,1937, where I merely stated four general propositions as outlining the Northern Light position, and see if you have any fair measure of data upon which to base a decision in such a matter even if you did have the authority - which you do not have, since only a Presbytery or if necessary a Synod or the General Assembly can settle such a matter between two churches. And what is more, from the standpoint of fairness, I did not use my office as chairman to prejudice you in the matter by writing in detail, even though I knew that the Waggoners were to do that very thing when they went east to the General Assembly. Why are we not to be treated just as fairly?

"I have before me a plan of the City of Juneau, showing the various locations which have been suggested": Would it not have been a courteous thing for us to have been shown that map, or to be shown it even yet, so that we could actually know what it purports to portray? Whatever is shows, please remember that our respective fields are now defined by a natural elevation or bluff as well as by the natives' preference for the waterfront; and keep in mind the fact that natives moving from the present village ground toward their newer choice, are still BELOW "E" Street and not beyond Tenth, and that ABOVE "E" Street and beyond Tenth is very definitely white neighborhood. In other words, there are natives on both sides of Willoughby all along it from Femmer's or the Government Dock to where it becomes "E" Street, but they are only on the water side of "E" Street to the Douglas Bridge at Tenth Street.

"The site which you suggested is not large enough to accomodate the church and manse building": I did not suggest any one site as my choice, unless they mean Mr Whittier's place; but stated and maintain that if they want it they can get all they need for less than the cost of the proposed lots - and they would not be running away from the only job they have in Juneau, and that is the native people at the point of their greatest need.

"The site near the Standard Oil dock and the one suggested near the power plant do not seem to me to be satisfactory for obvious reasons": I do not know which sites you mean, nor do I know what are the "obvious reasons"; but I do know that the Salvation Army is located right next to the Standard Oil dock, that their workers live right there where the native people are. This does not mean that I would have OUR workers live there; but it does mean that we would be abandoning most of the native field to the Army.

"The block on the corner of Ninth and "D" Street....would give us plenty of room for the manse and the church, and it is only a comparatively short distance from the site of the old mission": Certainly there would be room enough, and the distance I should say would be about half a mile; but do you realize that to get to it from Willoughby Avenue you would need to go through what is really an unpaved ill-lighted alleyway of about fifteen feet width? If tourists ever did manage to find the native work at the point you propose to locate it, they would ask what we were doing back there on Ninth Street instead of being out in the neighborhood through which they would need to pass to reach it. Doctor Bom rndike, if I had the money to bring Mr Scheide up here to see what you propose to do with his money, I believe he would say that is not at all what he wanted done with it, and that he would agree with Northern Light Church. By the way, do you happen to know that the Waggoners showed the Scheides around Juneau and had them back on the boat ready to leave town without them ever knowing that the Presbyterians had such a work as Northern Light Church here? It was only then I happened to be on that boat with other persons, and approached the Waggoners with the result that they introduced me to the Scheides, that the Scheides learned that we were here. The Waggoner explanation was "we didnt have time." Not only would tourists almost never find the native work at the proposed site; but native people from other villages, who come in on their small boats and who are the victims of Juneau's saloons and brothels, would never find or go to the new location; but if you will put the new plant somewhere down near where it is NOW, it would stand like a beacon on the waterfront, offering a handy inviting offset to the vicious appeals now ruining them, and by thus helping them we would be conserving the results from the work our other workers are gaining in the neighboring villages, as well as in that way enlarging the ministry of the Juneau church. This is just one example of what I mean by 'running away from the job", and in God's name you must not let this happen.

"..have the missionary's residence on the same property as the church, so that he can live close to the people whom he is to serve": It is proper for the missionary to be "close" to his work, but if he is to have the plant and program you propose, he just must be in position to go home away from such a work or you wont be able to keep any one man on the field for any length of time. That is Mr Waggoner's explanation of the fact that where he has built churches he has put the manse above the field, and it can be done right here in Juneau "close to the people." I have no particular zeal for Mr Whittier's location above some others; and I am not sure but have the notion that for about $2000 you could get his property, which would mean a wonderful manse right up the hill from the actual field, sufficiently accessible to the people, and with enough land running through to Willoughby Avenue for the church and social unit, looking right down the channel within sight of local and tourist boats, on the thoroughfare where the native congregation walk to town, and where their Native Brotherhood Hall, the Government hospital and school are.

missionaries and others who know the native disposition to sit and sit and sit for hours in your home for no sufficient reason, and that you cannot easily excuse yourself or show them out without giving offense, will tell you that there is disadvantage in living too close to the people, and a measure of advantage in living only reasonably close - although not so far away as the Waggoners are at present.

And if you have been told that the proposed location is necessary so that the native people can catch inspiration from the way the missionary manse and church will have lawn and flowers, and catch the message of God through nature (as we have been told), let me say that if they have not caught it from the wonderful natural beauty up here they never will get if from such lawns as may be provided where 85" annual precipitation makes man-made beauty possible only at prohibitive cost. Furthermore, the natives are not gardeners, they would lose any such inspiration by the time they got from the church to where they live, and when they did get home very few have ground for gardening.

"Mr Waggoner has indicated on the map the residences of seventeen native families which are within a block and a half of this site": My guess is that from twelve to fourteen of them are BELOW "E" Street, which I have stated is definitely native neighborhood - the better part to which you have been told the younger ones are moving. Mrs Barlow on the upper side of E street, a white man with a part native wife, a white member of my church who works with the Waggoners and lives with her daughter (the daughter an active worker in our Martha's Society) would be exceptions. There is no finer younger native couple than Mr and Mrs Cyril Zuboff, he for the past two years President of all the Alaska Native Brotherhood, she this year's president of the Sisterhood; and right now they are enlarging and improving their own home BELOW "E" Street, where they want to live and where they can afford to live on their income and capital. For anyone to tell you that the natives are moving into the locality ABOVE "E" Street "and will be more and more taking up homes in that locality" is to speak ignorantly or falsely. If that is so, why did Ralph Waggoner ask our National Missions committee not to let it become known that they wanted to buy there, to keep it quiet until purchase was made, "because if it were know there would be objection and protest"? It was because he knew that that is a white neighborhood, that people would rise up in protest not through prejudice but to protect their PROPERTY VALUES, which values would suffer with the coming of native people and their church.

"..there is no church in that entire area beyond Gold Creek": Of course not, because all Juneau white churches minister to them; and it is no farther to our churches them it is to the Public Schools, lodges, movies and stores to which they all walk, so why should they build a church there? About half of the Northern Light Sunday School resides in that area, a considerable proportion of our membership, a large number of men and women not actually members but supporters of our budget and attending our Men's and Women's groups- Northlitemen for men, and Martha Society for women. But all seventeen native families mentioned in just to save arguing, and even then tell me whose field it is. I wonder if you realize that if you should locate the native church at Ninth and "D" the people of that entire locality would blame the Northern Light Church, and what a break that would be for our Methodist friends especially and for the Lutherans and their new minister - since we have quite a number of both in our constituency who could be influenced in their anger to leave us for those other communions, which I am convinced they would.

"I cannot see how the native church could compete in any way with the Northern Light Church, situated on the site which Mr Waggoner and his congregation have selected": I just telephoned the Bureau of Indian Affairs office, who have just completed a survey of the Juneau native population and place it at four hundred-fifty (450) to include mixed-blood as well as full native. You remember that these 450 are divided among the Presbyterians, Salvation Army, Pentecostal Assembly, Greek Catholics and Roman Catholics; and that they are a diminishing factor because of (1) tuberculosis (2) liquor and (3) inter-marriage. Now tell me who will be the constituency of our Juneau native church on the proposed site now and in the future? Why was it pointed out to you that there is no church "in that entire area beyond Gold Creek"? It was with the definite purpose of cultivating that field of white people, with the same zeal that is very largely responsible for the lack of cordiality between the two churches today. What would you call that but competition? I might as well call a spade a spade, asking only the same confidence you grant the Waggoners regarding us: I have heard Mr Waggoner make the boast of thankfulness that "not one cent of my (his) salary comes to me from Juneau", and I wonder why that is when the same man criticizes the Salvation Army for the amount of money THEY collect here every year for the support of their local and Territorial work? I'll tell you why. Primarily because our missionary has been injudicious enough to try to mix white and native people on a par TODAY instead of working toward it, and charging with prejudice people who would support his work if carried on differently. Secondly, because the Army is known to be close enough to the natives - and an element of whites who are part of that field - in practical helpful ways to merit the financial support the merchants give them; support which our native work can have under another missionary with the proposed new plant and enlarged program, and it would come from merchants who are members or supporters of Northern Light Church who would give to our native work instead of or in addition to the Army without depleting Northern Light support. Whereas on the proposed new location the native work would have no local appeal for support, EXCEPT such as it would get by cultivating that part of our white field which you propose to occupy in definite competition with Northern Light Church.

We might as well recognize that fact that nobody knows better than the Waggoners, that it is not within the ability of their native constituency to maintain the new plant and enlarged program; and that they must of necessity cultivate that white area, with the result that to the extent that they do get more whites you will have the sorry spectacle of two Presbyterian churches both in white neighborhoods competing among 6000 people - and with the native village and waterfront abandoned to others.

"Your church does not aim to minister particularly to the native people": Of course not, that is Mr Waggoner's job; but now the other church definitely proposes to minister to the white people, which IS OUR job. Such natives as come to us here made welcomed to what we have - as members, attendants, in Sunday School, Scout Troop, etc; but naturally we do not "minister particularly" to them since you have provided a church and minister especially for them. I have conducted native funerals, have given time to them whenever they have called at my home for counsel, have provided transportation in Northern Light members' cars as well as my own a number of times twenty miles out the road to carry Mr Waggoner's people to the rendezvous for the Sitka Conference and other purposes; and I have accepted every invitation to attend services or help that church in any way they have asked me, without feeling free to go there otherwise.

"I recall...the very positive attitude of the members of your Session with reference to..including native people in your church's ministry": I hope you also recall how Mr Faulkner for one agreed with you that what you proposed would surely come in time, but felt that now is not yet the time; and how he, as president of the Territorial Board of Education, told you that it is happening increasingly in the schools and would likewise come in time with the churches including our own. If you recall that part of the conference, nobody will long convince you that Northern Light Church is prejudiced against the natives or lacks interest in them. If they were, how could the local Salvation Army men tell me what fine financial support they get from Northern Light people,- and I ask you again to consider why OUR native church doesn't get it, not only since I came here but before I ever came to Juneau. I am convinced, Mr Somerndike, that your idea of these two churches coming into a closer actual affiliation will work out one of these days IF you keep the native work somewhere in its present location; but your present proposal is a slap in the face which this congregation and CITY will never forget or forgive.

"Mr Scheide is quite favorable to the site...and is anxious to proceed as rapidly as possible....": He is no more anxious to proceed than I am to have you do so, for the present plant and program are not much credit to the Presbyterian Church to say the least. But what does he know about locating a church in Juneau from what he saw in the time he was here, except what he has been told by those influencing him? And are we to allow $5000 and whatever else you may hope that he will give to be invested where it will surely fail of its intended purpose, and where it will do harm to the Northern Light Church? The answer of this church is a definite no so far as our part is concerned, and we pray that it will be your answer too when you think these facts through.

"I have authorized Mr Waggoner to secure an option on these lots until the Board can take action at its meeting this month, authorizing their purchase": I am sorry that you have done that, Doctor, since it probably calls for an outlay of money and may be given publicity which will not help any; and I regret to have to say this, but if necessary we can draw upon about a half dozen attorneys in this congregation to protect what we believe are our rights,- indeed to protect what we feel is the future of our own work. Please do not make such a thing necessary.

"...Mr Foss, whom he recommends as a very reliable real estate agent": Mr Foss is a fine young man and friend of mine, on the same committee in Chamber of Commerce agitating for the improvement of all the waterfront including the native village; but he is not at all a real estate agent, just a young architect, and if anything religiously is Christian Science with his wife now although formerly Methodist. I presume that because Mr Troast is a member of my church he is no longer acceptable to Mr Waggoner under the present circumstances; also perhaps because he too disapproves of the proposed site if suitable location can be had elsewhere. Too bad that a person becomes disqualified through not being a yes-man.

"...offering our general missionary cottage and the house in which Mr Waggoner lives, for sale": I enclose two bills which I ask that you pay the two local newspapers for the ads I ran for about six weeks trying without success to sell the missionary cottage. I believe Mr Waggoner and I have been agreement with reference to his house, feeling that there was no use offering his place until there were considerable further developments.

In other words, offer his house when it was known where the new church was to be located, since there was no reason to secure him two moves.

As to the general missionary cottage, I know of one person whom Mr Waggoner suggested as a buyer, the daughter of Dr S. Hall Young, and I was unable to get her or her husband interested. I did have several young couples of our Northern Light Church look it over, and almost sold it a number of times on the terms Mr Waggoner told me were acceptable to you, namely, at the assessed valuation of $4000 net cash to the Board, and with the about $100 worth of furniture thrown in for quick sale. I am convinced now that the property is over-assessed, and that you should ask for a reduction on the Assessor's lists; for it is not really on a street but rather on a stairway, it has no possible garage space, and prospective buyers cannot get Government loans with which to buy it since the house covers too great a portion of the lot and is too close to the house next above it. A relative of Mr Woodcott would have bought it, having gotten estimates for improving it, but could not borrow the balance needed because of the regulations stated above. So unless you wish to drop the price still further, or repair it for renting (Mr Waggoner told me $500 for an electric range and to modernize the heating), I do not know what further I can do - and await your advice. I trust that from this you will see that, no matter how I may feel personally or the congregation either, I have tried hard to help the other church through the sale of this property - even to being killed for being in the real estate business, so just give me credit for being not altogether bad!

"The new church will be called the S. Hall Young Memorial Church": Strange as it may seem to you, I am not contradicting myself or changing my viewpoint when I say that AT THE LOCATION PROPOSED that would be just as objectionable as the present name, and just as misleading. Recently you wrote me, on May 1st, saying "I will insist that their new building shall be erected on a location which will make it clear by its very location that the church is intended to minister specifically to the natives. This is the desire of the gentleman who has offered to give $5000 toward the erection of the new building. ...we shall insist that that building shall be located in a place where by its very location it will be evident that it is intended for natives only." (My underlining). Now Doctor tell me, even if you named it the Native Church, how could you do what you just promised in that quotation AT THE LOCATION PROPOSED? The answer is that it is impossible! Down where we feel you should keep the native church, the proposed name would be quite acceptable, because it would be "clear by it's very location that the church is intended to minister specifically to the natives." And it would so minister, because in the native field where it has ministered for fifty years, and should do so increasingly.

"Since the matter was definitely referred to me by your Presbytery for decision..... Since neither your committee nor the Presbytery would make a refinite recommendation": On page 3, under "8", in your copy of our National Missions committee report to Alaska Presbytery last spring, you will find the only action of Presbytery and the committee upon this matter, and it is as follows,- "We recommend that the Board send its own representative to Juneau to help settle the question of the new Juneau First Church location." You were not told to settle anything, merely to send a representative HELP US settle it; and that WAS "a definite recommendation" of both the committee and the Presbytery. To date you have not done what we asked, send a representative; but instead representatives of the other church have gone to you, and you presume to decide it for them.

Doctor, God save us from involving Presbyterian Church law and procedure, and just let us recognize that out of the fullness of your heart's desire to get action you have merely taken in too much territory, possibly under the false impression that this is only a passive matter with this church; but please be advised that we intend to fight with every proper weapon any attempt to locate that church on the proposed site, even though you may choose to go ahead and buy all the lots you have money for.

That recommendation was acceptable to both Mr Waggoner and myself for different reasons: I was afraid that the native elders present would out-vote the white ministers and settle against us a matter which they little understood and therefore were not qualified to judge, which I would have you know is just what happened to the Board's interests in the Sitka matter when it was re-opened on the floor, and which could have happened after someone sold them the idea of race prejudice - a ready tool for some folks. On the other hand, I have reason to believe that the Waggoners feared that the white ministers would favor the Northern Light position, for Ralph Waggoner told Mr Wheeler that much that very day; and they also figured on their trip east to work out as it has been indicated in your letter of June 7th. So far as the committee were concerned, they were not "passing the buck", but doing their best to keep ill-feeling and bad judgment off the floor; and giving the Board which has so many thousands of dollars at stake to have an intelligent view of the whole situation at first hand, by sending their own representative - which at that time seemed more reasonable than it may now seem to you, since the representative was also to look into the Sitka matter. Please therefore give the committee credit for sincerely trying to do its very best for all concerned in both situations.

"..on the basis of my own recollection of the shore line,...of all of which I have a very clear mental picture": You will have to pardon me, Doctor, for believeing that even you with all your experience would need to be given more of a picture than you could have been given while here - plus what you have been told lately, to be able to decide such a matter with the necessary intelligence and fairness. Nor could anyone else who did not make that their particular study while here, which you certainly were not able to do. No, the matter is more difficult than that.

"...the petition from the congregation of the native church and the unanimity of their choice of the site which Mr Waggoner has indicated": It seems to me that you should have said "selected" instead of "indicated", and be nearer the truth as I have it from within that very church. There may be unanimity on that petition you have, with numerous organizations mentioned as though a great number of people were involved, and names of persons who do not even attend the services; but I have it from within that church that, after the Waggoners and one other man selected the proposed site, they then had those people sign and in that way made it the people's choice. One elder of the highest standing in all Juneau has not even attended services for some time, because he became tired of being made a rubber stamp in just that way; but finally signed when the Waggoners had other natives prevail upon him to do so. This is the elder who is respected by all the Presbyters, who came to the church and gave the address of welcome to the spring Presbytery; but that was the first time he had been there in some time, and he did so because he is a real Presbyterian with an interest in his people and in all the church, not because satisfied in his heart with the way things are being done in that church at this time. No one knowing the native disposition would expect them to do anything but follow the lead they have been given in this instance and to agree and sign such a petition; and signing it with the greatest unanimity but with no more understanding than they have of this situation means very little.

I am enclosing two clippings from local papers with the thought that they might help you see that we should keep step with the progress being made in the improvement of the Juneau waterfront, including the native village area, and take advantage of that improvement, to add to it by building somewhere near where we now are, and thus show our interest in the total native problem instead of running away from it to please a comparative few. The clipping on "Sanitation at Chamber of Commerces" should prove that at last something is to be done to correct the conditions created by rock-filling Willoughby Avenue. In fact, Mr Hirst of the Indian Affairs office here told me that he has advised the City that he can get money for the part past the native village if that part of the work will be done with native labor. The clipping regarding "Union Oil Company" shows another improvement soon to be undertaken right near our present native mission, toward town from that of the Standard Oil. Possibly your map of Juneau will show both the new Standard Oil location and Femmer's or the Government Dock; and if so, you have in the area between those two points what Mr Hirst hopes shall become the site for the new Government school and new homesites for the native people - right across the highway from our present mission! His idea is to fill in on the water side of Willoughby Avenue, thus putting the natives on the real waterfront again, on land now under reserve by the Department of the Interior for just such purposes. Tell me, Doctor, why should our church leave that improving community where there are the Government school, Government Hospital, Native Brotherhood Recreation Hall, Salvation Army Citadel, and the thoroughfare of the native people for their every interest, and run over into a white neighborhood which every native knows is a white neighborhood and where natives are rarely even seen?

Mr Hirst, Mr Hawkesworth and Mr Will Paul, all of the office of Indian Affairs all agree that we should stay about where we are, but they CANNOT AFFORD TO SPEAK on the subject. In fact, Mr Hirst told me that in his own home this past Sunday afternoon, when from his window we looked over the area now served by our native church. Is not the judgment of these intelligent officials worth considering alongside any petition however unanimously presented to you? Furthermore, and this too must be in full confidence for obvious reasons, Mrs Allen, teacher for years in Juneau's native school told me ten days ago that the Waggoners called on her - in her home one-half block from the proposed new site, saying they were soon to be her neighbors and tried to get her to commit herself but failed. However, she and her husband both told me that it would be the worst thing that could happen to that community and would create terrible feeling on the part of property owners. She is with them daily throughout the school year, knows them at least as well as the missionaries, yet feels that way. Shall we disqualify her as prejudiced or something because they support the Northern Light Church, he attends our men's club, and their three children are in our Sunday School, one of them just now returned from our Sitka Conference? No, they simply tell the truth, but dare not offend by speaking out loud.

There are other angles about which I could write more, but why should I? If what I have already said does not kill this foolish yet dangerous proposal, I do not know what could. If this isnt enough, send Dr James Thomson or someone like him up here to meet both local boards, and I have not the least fear as to what the result would be.

Well, Doctor, I do not know how long it will take you to read or digest this epistle from John, but I do know that it has taken me hours to lash it off. If I have been unkind or unfair to anyone, may the good Lord forgive me and over-rule for the good of His work here; but remember that I write out of the conviction that I am doing two things, namely, protecting the present and future interest of my own church, and trying to help you and the Scheides avoid being used to do something which is not for the best interests of the native work itself. I have a measure of admiration for anyone who has put in decades of missionary work here, but that is not sufficient reason for me to sit bye and do less than the right as I see it. I sincerely believe that if you would use the Scheide money to pay off the Waggoners for health reasons and in recognition of their Alaska ministry, instead of having them limp around here for a couple of years more and unable to do their present task let alone an enlarged one, it would be an acceptable blessing to them and good for the local work. I believe too that within a year a live man here, trained to do what needs to be done, could see the building project through and save you money at that; and I know that then these two churches could work together in a way that has not been possible for years - even before I came here.

In closing I should like to turn on you something you wrote about me in your letter of May 1st, when you said "the more I work with you the better I like you, but sometimes when that temperament of yours gets to working you can be a little difficult." That goes double from me to you! You also sympathised with my wife because of the "refractory spirit with which she has to contend"; and you know Doctor, while I understand that you have no wife with whom I may sympathise, I have flattered myself in believeing that I have just a little of that spirit of which I believe you have a lot - the spirit that at times tires of pious twaddle and speaks out in meetin' when nothing else will do. Frankly, I would have told Presbytery long ago what to do with this chairmanship but for the fact that I have hoped to be a real help to <u>you</u> in trying to handle a great Territory of which you know little except through correspondence from men who see very largely only their own job, and who are shall I say jealous of their standing with the Board and who therefore somewhat resent other missionaries sitting in judgment on them in presbyterial matters - which is necessary here to an extent not equalled in many Presbyteries. Mr Pederson told Presbytery this spring that we need some sort of handy man up here who would not however be a Bishop, and didn't get far because it was thought he wanted to be that roving handy-man. I feel that you need something like that, a sort of general missionary, and God knows that I am impersonal in that conviction. I wonder at times if it might not be providential that you have been unable to sell this general missionary cottage. The women of the Presbyterial are aiming at the same thing, I believe, even though I do not agree with their proposals as presented the past two years. The question of what the Princeton should do and how to do it is, I believe, a part of this same reaching out for a better working arrangement up here. I might also refer to the matter of the difficulty of seeing to property repairs previously presented for your thought. I sincerely believe that with the property investment represented in our Alaska churches, and the annual budget you provide, that it would be in the interests both of efficiency and economy to have someone oversee all our work in some such capacity as that of the former general missionary; and that sure such person would have saved you thousands of dollars at Sitka, for example, and possibly also not at Juneau. This is no reflection on you, since any man can do only so much - even you!

Cordially yours,

John Glasse

Hollingsby Ave. = water front street
is this street below the water
line? If so ~~[illegible]~~ would it
~~be well to build there until~~
not be necessary to fill the
ground and could we fill
just one plot? Would it not
be necessary to wait (if we
decide that Hollingsby St. is the
best location) until the project
of filling urged by Chamber of
Commerce & Govt Navy Commission
is completed

2 If we leave the water front
would not that be unjust for
Salvation Army to take over our
property to natives?

3 Difficult for tourists to reach

4. Glaze suggests Whittier property for a manse – where is it?
see Glaze letter bottom page 2.

5. Natives are not moving above E street, but below. Mr Zuboff home below E. St. This is shown by Haggard's marked map

6. Half of N. Light S.S. resides in the area proposed & much of membership

7. Reiterate no intention to compete with N. L. church & in new bldg. not bedding for whites, ~~mixed blds~~. This must be avoided Cannot & do not want to depend upon white people joining native church to provide maintenance

8. Consult Mr. Troast –

9 Will pay adv. bills & will consider a reasonable offer for survey. Cottage below $3000

Would be necessary to "invoke Prev. law + procedure" (Smith)

Conclusion

Select best site ~~in~~ present neighborhood since Shellenbergh Ave is to be rock-filled. Hope it can get money for filling that part front native village + site for gov. School + new homesites for native people to be in, are between Standard Oil dock + gov. dock.

~~Price [illegible]~~

From Minutes of the Executive Committee of
The Board of National Missions - June 18, 1937

Re: Juneau Native Church building

"That the Board authorize the erection of a church building and a Manse at an approximate total cost of $23,000. and an appropriation out of the fund in the hands of the Board for the settlement of its insurance claim in connection with the destruction of the Barrow Hospital, of such an amount as may be necessary to complete the building of the new native church and manse, over and above the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Scheide and the proceeds of the sale of the missionary residences. It is proposed that this church be called the S. Hall Young Memorial Church."

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June
16th
1937

Rev. John A. Glasse,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Glasse:

I have sent you the following wire:-

WILL BE VERY GLAD TO HAVE CLEAR STATEMENT FROM YOU REGARDING LOCATION OF NEW NATIVE CHURCH NO ACTION TAKEN TO PURCHASE NEW PROPERTY UNTIL FULL CONSIDERATION GIVEN YOUR REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING SITUATION STATEMENTS IN MY LETTER CONCERNING SITE FOR NEW BUILDING BASED ON INFORMATION GIVEN BY WAGGONERS

I am sorry if I misinterpreted the action of your Presbytery with reference to the decision regarding the site for the new native church. In conversation with Mr. Waggoner and his son, Ralph, while at Columbus, I learned that your Committee was divided, and that because of this division the matter was referred to the representative of the Board to make the final decision. Since that does not seem to be the case, according to your telegram, I assume that your Committee will take up the matter again and after a careful study and conference with Mr. Waggoner will be able to arrive at a decision that will be satisfactory to all concerned. You need no assurance from me that we have no desire to set up the native church in a competitive position with the Northern Light Church. Indeed, our attitude, as you well know, is quite the contrary.

It seems to me that this is a matter which ought to be settled without very much difficulty in conference between you and Mr. Waggoner. Would it not be possible for you to sit down with him and go into the whole situation in a thorough way, considering not only the interests of the native people but also the future of the Northern Light Church in relation to the native work?

Awaiting your reply, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

June
7th
1937

Rev. John A. Glasse,
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Glasse:

I have had several conferences with Mr. Waggoner relative to the location of the native church. I have before me a plan of the City of Juneau, showing the various locations which have been suggested. I have gone into the matter in great detail. The site which you suggested is not large enough to accommodate the church and manse building. One of the purposes of re-building is to have the missionary's residence on the same property as the church, so that he can live close to the people whom he is to serve. The site near the Standard Oil dock and the one suggested near the power plant do not seem to me to be satisfactory for obvious reasons. The block on the corner of Ninth and "D" Streets, running through to "C" Street, consisting of five lots, would give us plenty of room for the manse and the church, and it is only a comparatively short distance from the site of the old mission.

Mr. Waggoner has indicated on the map the residences of seventeen native families which are within a block and a half of this site. He tells me that the young natives when they marry and set up their homes, are moving away from the old native quarter and into this locality. All the future of our work depends upon enlisting the young people and providing facilities especially for the cultivation of their Christian life and training in Christian service. Mr. Waggoner tells me that there is no church in that entire area beyond Gold Creek and that natives and mixed blood people will more and more be taking up homes in that vicinity. It is farther away from the Northern Light Church than the site of the present mission. I cannot see how the native church could compete in any way with the Northern Light Church, situated on the site which Mr. Waggoner and his congregation have selected. But apart from the question of the geographical distance between this site and your church, all competition would be eliminated because of the fact that your church does not aim to minister particularly to the native people. I recall my conference with your Session when I was in Juneau last September, and the very positive attitude of the members of your Session with reference to the matter of including the native people in your church's ministry.

Mr. Waggoner has conferred with Mr. Scheide, who has promised to contribute the first $5000, and has gone into the situation with him in great detail. Mr. Scheide is quite favorable to the site which Mr. Waggoner and his congregation have selected and is very anxious for us to proceed as rapidly as possible in the purchase of the ground and with the plans for the erection of the church building and manse. I have authorized Mr. Waggoner to secure an option on these lots until the Board can take action at its meeting this month, authorizing their purchase.

Mr. Waggoner suggested that we get in touch with Mr. Foss, whom he recommends as a very reliable real estate agent, offering our general missionary cottage and the house in which Mr. Waggoner lives, for sale, urging that the sale be negotiated as rapidly

as possible because we shall need the cash for the building of the new manse and church. The new manse will be a modest house - quite unpretentious but substantial and planned in such a way as to afford a satisfactory home for Mr. Waggoner and for his successor after his retirement.

I hope that our decision will be satisfactory to you. The new church will be called the S. Hall Young Memorial Church, eliminating some of the difficulty which has existed in the past with which you are entirely familiar.

Since the matter was definitely referred to me by your Presbytery for a decision, I hope that our judgment will meet with the concurrence of your Committee and of the Presbytery. Since neither your Committee nor the Presbytery would make a definite recommendation, we have exercised our judgment in this matter on the basis of my own recollection of the shore line, the location of your church, and the location of the native church, of all of which I have a very clear mental picture; at the same time visualizing the new location which Mr. Waggoner has suggested. We have taken into consideration also, as we should, the petition from the congregation of the native church and the unanimity of their choice of the site which Mr. Waggoner has indicated.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

For several years we have been facing the necessity of erecting a new native church in Juneau, Alaska, to take the place of the present chapel erected on piles, with the tide water rising to the floor of the chapel on many occasions. The sum of $5000. has been offered by Mr. and Mrs. John H. Scheide of Titusville, Pa., and a site has been selected for the new building. Plans are being completed for a new church and manse with adequate provision for Sunday school and young people's work and for the inauguration of a community program which is very much needed in behalf of the native people.

The site which has been selected for the new building will cost $2700. The new manse to be erected on the same site will cost approximately $6000. The church building will cost approximately $17000., making the total for the entire enterprise $25,700. It is proposed to sell the two missionary residences in Juneau which the Board acquired many years ago and which are valued at $9000. With Mr. Scheide's gift of $5,000., we shall have a total of $14,000. available.

IT IS RECOMMENDED:

(1) That the Board approve the purchase of five lots, forty by fifty feet each on the north side of West Ninth Street between "C" and "D" Streets in Juneau, at a cost of $2700.

(2) That the Board accept with an expression of their gratitude the gift of $5000. from Mr. and Mrs. Scheide for this new enterprise.

(3) That the Board authorize the Treasurer to negotiate the sale of the general missionary cottage and of the residence now occupied by Mr. Waggoner, missionary in charge of the native church, for a consideration of approximately $9000., with the discretion to accept a lower price if necessary in order to effect a prompt sale.

(4) That the Board authorize the erection of a church building and a manse at an approximate total cost of $23,000. and [illegible] an appropriation out of the fund in the hands of the Board for the settlement of its insurance claim in connection with the destruction of the Barrow hospital, of such an amount as may be necessary to complete the building of the new native church and manse, over and above the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Scheide and the proceeds of the sale of the missionary residences. It is proposed that this church be called the S. Hall Young Memorial Church.

(5) That the proper officers of the Board be authorized to execute the necessary papers in connection with the sale of the two manse properties and in the acquisition of the site for the new church and manse and to do whatever else may be necessary to complete this project.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Please send CHEAPEST RATE and render DOE BILL TO [illegible]

Charge to the account of _____ New York, N. Y. 1228 A $_____

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED			
DOMESTIC		CABLE	
TELEGRAM		FULL RATE	
DAY LETTER		DEFERRED	
NIGHT MESSAGE		NIGHT LETTER	
NIGHT LETTER		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE, PRESIDENT
NEWCOMB CARLTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

1.76
Fa. 9/2/37

JUNE 21 1937

MR. RALPH WAGGONER
BOX 1421
JUNEAU ALASKA

PLEASE DO NOTHING IN REGARD TO PURCHASE OF LOTS FOR NEW CHURCH UNTIL YOU RECEIVE FURTHER WORD FROM ME GLASSE VIGOROUSLY OBJECTS AM AWAITING HIS REASONS HOLD EVERYTHING UNTIL YOU HEAR FROM ME

J. M. SOMERNDIKE

WESTERN UNION MESSENGERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES.

June 28th, 1937

Rev. David Waggoner
c/o Rev. James Thomson, D. D.
1203 American Bank Bldg.
Seattle, Wash.

Dear Mr. Waggoner:

I have received a letter from Mr. Glasse, accompanied by some information which was not available to me at the time we discussed the matter of the location of the new church in Columbus. I have given careful consideration to all the arguments which Mr. Glasse has presented, and I am impressed with the kindly and sympathetic attitude which he has expressed in his letter toward the welfare of the native church. I have gone over your plan of the city again and reviewed the whole matter in a prayerful spirit and in the light of the information contained in Mr. Glasse's letter, besides giving consideration to the plans of the city government and of the Office of Indian Affairs for the improvement of the conditions in the native village.

After carefully considering all phases of the question, it is our judgment that we should consider again the original site that you and I discussed and favored when I was in Juneau last September. I believe that we can build the kind of church that we want to build, with accommodations for social program, in the native village on the site of Mr. Whittier's property, buying additional ground if necessary, and cutting away a part of the hill, if necessary, to accommodate the building. This would make it possible for the manse to be practically alongside of the church, but it would be above the church and in a better location for the family of the missionary to reside.

We earnestly trust that you and your Session will adopt the proposal that I have made in my letter to Mr. Glasse, and that you will see, as we do, the opportunity which is presented by the interest which has been awakened by the Northern Light Church in the matter of the location of the new building, to bring the two churches together in a spirit of common understanding which will enable them to work together in thorough harmony and mutual helpfulness through all the future years.

We have decided that we will not purchase the land at Ninth and "D" Streets. We hope, therefore, that when the representatives of the two churches come together, it will be for the discussion of ways in which we can find a suitable location for the church building in the native village, with particular reference to the site of Mr. Whittier's property which we understand is obtainable at a reasonable price.

We are working with the Bureau of Church Architecture in the Home Missions Council in the preparation of preliminary plans. They will do the job for us at a much lower price than Mr. Foss suggested as his commission if the job were given to him. One of the questions which the Bureau of Church Architecture would like to have us answer is the approximate cost per cubic foot of frame construction buildings including heating and plumbing in Juneau. A reliable contractor in Juneau could give you this information. Of course we will submit the plans to you before anything final is done, for any suggestions which you may wish to offer. I would like to have the plans for the new building presented to this same commission consisting of the official representatives of the two churches, and to have them work together as a commission sponsoring this enterprise until it is completed. In this way, the two churches will have an opportunity of working together in a way that can be productive of most helpful results.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS
Enc.

THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL

BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE

ELBERT M. CONOVER, DIRECTOR

105 EAST 22ND STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

CARLOS M. DINSMORE, CHAIRMAN
23 EAST 26TH STREET, NEW YORK
FRED W. MUELLER, SECRETARY
1701 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA
WILLIAM R. KING, EXECUTIVE SEC'Y
THE HOME MISSION COUNCIL
(REPRESENTING 26 CHURCH BOARDS)

June 28, 1937

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth A venue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

We are sending under separate cover two or three samples of the designs and plans we have been developing for special mission fields.

The log church has been erected in northern Michigan and has proved very successful. We have the large-scale working drawings for it, so if it should happen that this solution would fit another problem, the working drawings could be supplied at a very low cost compared to the usual rate of 4½% of the cost of the building. The other plans indicate attempts to secure compact plans to provide a maximum useful floor space in a building of simple composition.

I have conferred with the architects and the outline, or preliminary plan, for Juneau is under way.

Because of the heavy amount of moisture there we are showing no basement except for heating plant. This can be made waterproof, but it would make the building very costly to waterproof the floor and walls of a basement.

The design for this particular sketch will show a shingle exterior which should make a very attractive building. The shingles can be waterproofed before used.

We are trying to keep this plan within a cost of $12,000 at 30 cents per cubic foot. It will be helpful before you order the working drawings if you can learn what is the approximate cost per cubic foot of similar construction in Juneau.

Since I am to be away for several days, if you wish to correspond about the plan it may save a day or two of time if you will communicate direct with Mr. A. H. Fink, Room 403, 1701 Arch Street, Philadelphia, who has taken this project in charge.

You are under no obligation for this sketch. Mr. Fink's letter to you, when he sends the plan, will indicate the cost for working drawings and specifications. We are very glad to have the privilege of serving your work.

Very truly yours,

E M Conover

EMC:jf

E. M. Conover

June
30th
1937

Mr. Elbert M. Conover,
105 East 22nd St.,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Conover:

I have your very kind letter of June 28th, and in the same mail I received from Mr. Fink blueprints of the Methodist church at Yuma, Arizona, the church in Wendell, Idaho, and the log church at Hulbert, Michigan.

The plan of the church in Wendell, Idaho, conforms to the general plan that I had in mind for our church in Juneau, excepting that we would require an extension of the space provided on the first and second floors for class-rooms and departmental work, from thirty-six feet to about sixty feet, in order to provide more class-rooms and a reading room as well as a game-room.

I do not know whether this would be practicable, or not. I would like to have your advice about it. I will appreciate receiving Mr. Fink's preliminary plans, and I may stop in Philadelphia when I am over there on Friday of this week and have a further conference with him about the matter.

Appreciating your interest, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

WENNER and FINK
Registered Architects
403 WESLEY BUILDING
1701 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

Dr. G. M. Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

June 28th, 1937

Rev. John A. Glasse
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Mr. Glasse:

I am deeply impressed by the considerations presented in your letter of June 17th. First of all, I will say that I was misled in my understanding that the decision with reference to the choice of a site for the new native church at Juneau had been referred by the presbytery "to the representative of the Board." I understand now that I was simply asked to give counsel and I shall be very careful not to assume any authority in the matter.

No further steps will be taken looking toward the purchase of the lots at Ninth and "D" Streets.

We are favorable to the site which you suggest for the manse, namely, Mr. Whittier's property which we understand fronts on Distin Street and which runs back to the street that passes through the native village at the foot of the hill, and which will afford sufficient width and depth by cutting away a part of the hill to erect a building containing the facilities for social program which we have in mind. This is the site which was originally selected by Mr. Waggoner and myself when I was in Juneau last September, and which seemed to us at that time to be most suitable. Mr. Waggoner in a recent letter expresses the fear that the church building would appear to be rather cramped in such a setting, but on further consideration I do not feel that this objection should have too great weight, especially in the light of the other considerations which are more important.

We are impressed by the statements in the clippings from the Juneau paper which you enclosed, relative to the project to rock-fill on the water side of Willoughby Avenue and to locate the new government school in the area of the native village which lies between the Standard Oil location and the government dock, and also with the fact that new home sites will be provided in that area for the natives. This makes it still more desirable and logical to locate our church building in that area, because it will be the permanent home of most of the native people. While some of them will move farther up Willoughby Avenue while still on the water front, as indicated by the map of the city which Mr. Waggoner gave me, it is quite evident that if the school is located in the native village, the locality around the school will be the permanent abiding place of the native people. We are adhering, of course, to the principle that in all cases where a church is serving a particular type of population, it ought to be located as nearly as possible in the center of the population which it is designated to serve.

We are impressed also with the deep interest not only of yourself, but of the members of the Northern Light Church in this new enterprise. This interest

seems to afford a providential opportunity to bring the two churches together into a much closer association than in the past. It is quite clear, as we consider the whole situation in Juneau, that you and Mr. Waggoner as the ministers of the two congregations, together with the members of the Sessions of the two churches, should come together as a sort of commission for the purpose of arriving at a decision in a spirit of sympathetic understanding regarding the location of the native church. Keeping in mind the fact that the money which we are expending for the new church is to be expended for a ministry exclusively to native people now and in the future, and that it is the desire of the Board to avoid, both in the location and the program of the native church, any possibility of encroachment upon the field or constituency of the Northern Light Church, and in view of the individual and joint interests of the Sessions of the two churches, it would not seem to me to be difficult for this combined group to come to a satisfactory decision. Laying aside all questions of racial prejudice, real or imagined, and looking only toward the future interests of both churches, and with a full understanding of the purpose of the Board in lending its financial aid to the building of the new church as indicated above, we feel sure that you will be able to decide the matter in a happy and thoroughly understanding way. As a matter of fact, the building of this new church has implications which cannot but involve the Northern Light Church, and for that reason also, it seems to us that to have the matter decided by the official representatives of the two churches is the only wise and sensible solution of the question at issue. If the coming together of the representatives of the two churches on this enterprise should result in a new appraisal and understanding of their respective responsibilities in Juneau, and also of their joint responsibility as representatives of the interests of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. in the capital city of Alaska, and of the implications of such a recognition of joint interest upon all of our mission work in Alaska, the whole circumstance would be one which we would look back upon as having brought a blessing to our entire work.

We will send you a check to cover the expense of the advertisements in the sale of the missionary residence in the Juneau papers, and I am returning the bills which I will ask you to kindly pay.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Waggoner, and I am enclosing herewith a copy of the letter to Mr. Waggoner which accompanies it. I hope that on the basis of this letter you will call Mr. Waggoner for a conference as quickly as possible to arrange for a joint meeting of the Sessions of the two churches with you and Mr. Waggoner, to bring the whole matter to an early conclusion.

With kindest regards, I am

Faithfully yours,

JMS:PDS
Enc. 2

WENNER & FINK
REGISTERED ARCHITECTS
CONSULTANTS TO THE
INTERDENOMINATIONAL
BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE

BRUCE C. WENNER, A. I. A.
A. HENSEL FINK, R. A.

1701 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

July 10, 1937

Mr. J. M Somerndike
Board of National Missions
156 Fifth Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

At Dr. Conover's request we have prepared a sketch for you of the proposed church at Juneau, Alaska. In designing this structure we realized that you wished as much flexibility as possible, dual use of space, etc. Due to the large amount of rain in this section we thought it advisable to plan without a basement, as the waterproofing of same would be considerable expense. Also, by having this additional space (social hall) behind the church proper it can be used as church overflow space, enabling the church to seat at least an additional 100. Taking this into consideration we were able to cut the length of the church and not sacrifice seats. The church, social hall, and library are conveniently located off a common vestibule thus doing away with costly corridor space. We feel the plant lends itself to the maximum amount of church activity at the minimum amount of cost.

As to the exterior, English design was chosen due to its church character, also the steep pitched roof associated with this design is especially adapted to a climate with a great deal of rain. The low sides and steep roof gives great dignity and soaring lines at a minimum cost. The bell coate is used for economy, and houses the boiler room chimney. This could be built in stone or brick which would blend nicely with the shingle exterior.

We estimate the cost of the building to run around $12,000. This would be 25¢ per cubic foot. Unless the building costs are unusually high in Juneau this cubic foot cost should be enough.

July 10, 1937

Mr. J. M. Somerndike

-2-

We are anxious to be of service to your organization and would prepare working drawings and specifications for the Juneau Church for 2%, or $240.00. The usual fee for such service is 4-4/5%.

I trust that we will hear favorably from you in regard to the above mentioned church.

Very truly yours,

A. Hensel Fink

a.3

A. Hensel Fink

ahf/aez
encs.

July
27th
1937

Mr. A. Hensel Fink,
1701 Arch St.,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Fink:

I have been absent from the office and have not had an opportunity until the last couple of days to examine the plan which you sent to me as a suggestion for our new native church in Juneau. I am very much pleased with the proposed plan but feel that certain changes will be necessary in order to make it adaptable to our needs.

I am sending under separate cover a sketch of a revised arrangement for the first floor, which as you will note adds a room to the left of the kitchen and carries the rear wall over making a complete rectangular structure for the annex, changing the designation of the rooms in order to make the building more adaptable to the program which we are planning to put on.

I do not know whether it can be done or not, but I would like if possible to have this rectangular annex made two stories high - the second floor being divided into six rooms as I have indicated in the rough sketch which I am attaching to your plan and sending you under separate cover. It may interfere with the artistic effect of the building to make the annex two full stories, and possibly with the pitch that you have given to the roof a full second story could be put in with dormer windows, making very comfortable rooms without extending the walls straight up for two stories and putting on a flat roof.

I am too ignorant of architectural procedure to know whether these plans which I am suggesting are practicable or not, but I feel sure that with your knowledge and experience you can work them out in a way that will give us the space we feel we need for the community program which we are projecting and which is necessary in the erection of this new building.

If we accept your plans in final form, we shall ask you to draw up specifications, and will be glad to compensate you at the rate you have mentioned in your letter.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

WENNER & FINK
REGISTERED ARCHITECTS
CONSULTANTS TO THE
INTERDENOMINATIONAL
BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE

BRUCE C. WENNER, A. I. A.
A. HENSEL FINK, R. A.

1701 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

August 21, 1937

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 - 5th Avenue
New York City.

Re: Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Dr. Somerndike:

I am sending you under separate cover revised sketches for the mission church at Juneau, Alaska.

I have endeavored to incorporate the changes which you have suggested in this set of sketches. If you have any other thoughts in regard to these plans, we would be glad to make any necessary corrections. It is a little indefinite in my mind as to whether you wish to maintain the large department room we showed in addition to the six class rooms for which you asked.

Very truly yours,

A. Hensel Fink

ahf/mvd

THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL
BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE

ELBERT M. CONOVER, DIRECTOR
105 EAST 22ND STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

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1701 ARCH STREET, PHILADELPHIA
WILLIAM R. KING, EXECUTIVE SEC'Y
THE HOME MISSION COUNCIL
(REPRESENTING 26 CHURCH BOARDS)

August 24, 1937

Dr. J. M. Somerndike
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Dr. Somerndike:

A few days ago in the office of the architects, Wenner & Fink, I reviewed their first revision of the rough sketches for Juneau, Alaska. The new plan adds considerable cubic volume to the building but will provide for a very complete program. If you have someone mea sure off in your office the dimensions, for example, of the 10 x 15 foot classrooms, you can have a vivid idea of the sizes of the rooms.

My only suggestion on this plan is that if the volume is still to be increased, would it be well to lengthen the social hall in view of the rapid development of the use of pageantry and dramatics in connection with religious education and social work in all the Protestant churches?

From your knowledge of the locality you will probably want to advise whatever architects prepare the working drawings regarding the amount of window area that would be desirable in the various rooms.

It has been very interesting to us to develop these sketches, and I am sure you will feel free to call upon us for any further desired service.

Very truly yours,

E. M. Conover

EMC:jf

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The Interdenominational Bureau
of Architecture
Elbert M. Conover, Director

105 East 22nd Street, New York City

Sept.
9th
1937

Mr. A. H. Fink,
1701 Arch St.,
Phila., Pa.

Dear Mr. Fink:

I was very much pleased with the changes which you made in the proposed building for our new church in Juneau. Mr. Conover has called my attention to the fact that the classrooms on the second floor - which measure ten by fifteen feet - are unusually large. May I suggest that we revise the plan, making all the classrooms approximately eight by ten feet? This will save expense and will reduce the size of the building.

I received word from Alaska stating that the cost per cubic foot of building construction in Juneau is $7.50, with a well-finished basement. A plain house without concrete basement can be built as low as $4.00 per cubic foot. With this information, I wonder if you can give me an idea of the proper cost of the building with basement and without basement, according to the plan as revised.

When I receive your reply with the suggested changes in the plan, I will send it to our Committee in Juneau for their approval.

Faithfully yours,

JMS:BH

File: Juneau Native Church

WENNER & FINK
REGISTERED ARCHITECTS
CONSULTANTS TO THE
INTERDENOMINATIONAL
BUREAU OF ARCHITECTURE

BRUCE C. WENNER, A. I. A.
A. HENSEL FINK, R. A.

1701 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA

September 23, 1937

J. N. Somerndike
156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

We are sending you revised sketches based upon your letter of September 9th.

We have made most of the class rooms on the second floor about 8 x 10. You will note there are three class rooms which are larger, but this was necessary due to the size of the rooms below, namely, beginners and kitchen.

There is undoubtedly some error in the cost that you quoted per cubic foot, $7.50 and $4.00 respectively. This may have been a typigraphical error, or it may be that this per square foot. Such a building in this section of the country would run about eighteen to twenty cents per cubic foot at the most. I would suggest that you check this with authorities at Juneau, and when we get the correct cubic foot cost I will then cube the new structure and give you the approximate cost.

Very truly yours,

F. Hensel Fink

ahf/ae z